



Left: One of the 'Animagic' Tree People from the Rankin/Bass feature film *Marco* (1973), starring Desi Arnaz and Zero Mostel. It was given to Romeo Muller by Masaki Iizuka in Japan. Muller actually appeared in the film and he wrote the lyrics to the song 'Peace Berries,' which was filmed in 'Animagic' (photo courtesy of Gene Muller). Right: Mortimer Snerd and Charlie McCarthy puppets from the unaired television pilot *The Edgar Bergen & Charlie McCarthy Show*. Below: Punch and Judy 'Animagic' figures from an unproduced TV special for *The Enchanted World of Danny Kaye* series (1971). Punch was to be voiced by Jerry Lewis and Judy by Carol Burnett. Considerable pre-production was completed on this project, including a full set of song demos written by Maury Laws and Jules Bass.



SIX

The Original Screenplay

Romeo Muller was a significant member of the Rankin/Bass team. He could take a premise and expand on it beyond expectations. Character designer Paul Coker, Jr. explains, "I would always enjoy getting the scripts Romeo wrote. They were written so well that it made my job easier. By reading the scripts you could tell that this wasn't the standard material written for children. They had a great deal of quality and warmth."

On the following pages, you'll find Romeo's original October 28th, 1963 draft of his *Rudolph* screenplay. It's the most interesting draft of the script and really gives an insight to what Romeo (and for that matter, Arthur Rankin and Jules Bass) were thinking. You can see the many song ideas that were nixed for time, and some of the revisions hand-written right on the page. One scene in particular to note is on page 4-3, in which Yukon Cornelius pulls his guns, firing a cork from one and a blast from another. This action was altered by the producers and perhaps was a "no no" even in 1964. It certainly would have been trimmed by the networks today. Also, on page 4-9 of this script, it's clear that Romeo intended to give the song "Silver & Gold" to Yukon. Larry D. Mann did originally record this song for the special, but his version is lost at the time of this printing. Just before Yukon, Hermey and Rudolph get to the Island of Misfit toys on page 4-12, they meet up with some beautiful mermaids, and there is a scene with three flying kites on page 4-16 that didn't make the final cut.

There are enough differences in this version of the script that I felt it was important to include the entire draft. Other books have reprinted exact dialogue from films and television specials, but I wanted to shed light on how this special developed from the beginning. Romeo gives a lot of direction as far as songs and incidental music go and this draft gives insight to his talents. Together with Arthur Rankin and Jules Bass, he created the world of the Island of Misfit toys that we know today. Heartfelt thanks go to Gene Muller and the Muller estate providing this original draft.

THE
GENERAL
ELECTRIC
FANTASY
 HOUR

THE STORY OF

RODOLP
THE
RED-NOSED
REINDEER

A VideoCraft Production

First Draft Screenplay
Written by: Romeo Muller
10-28-63

SECTION ONE

(TEASER)

1-2

SECTION ONE

FADE IN

MONTAGE OF FAST, JUMP-CUT, BLACK AND WHITE, LIVE ACTION SHOTS. (NEWSREEL...STOCK, ETC.)

The shots create a description of fierce blizzard conditions. Pictures of roads blocked by drifting snow banks; people in boots and heavy winter coats shoveling hopelessly; snow plows bogged down; houses half buried under snow; animals in distress; people pushing forward against the ice and wind; etc.

SOUND: HOWLING WIND.

MUSIC: ANGRY, BONE-CHILLING, DISASTER THEME.

AFTER FIVE SECONDS OF MONTAGE SUPERIMPOSE

Shots of realistic newspaper headlines:

1. "COLDWAVE IN 12TH DAY"
2. "FOURTEEN MORE INCHES OF SNOW EXPECTED"
3. "AIRPORTS CLOSED DOWN"
4. "ALL TRANSPORTATION DISRUPTED"
5. "POUL WEATHER MAY POSTPONE CHRISTMAS!!"

SPECIAL EFFECT:

Suddenly a great blast of snow fills the screen...blanking out the live action shots and headlines. The swirling ice particles form a spinning pattern on the screen. Intricately beautiful snowflake designs blow toward the Camera.

SOUND: WE HEAR THE VOICES OF CHILDREN...ECHO EFFECT.

VOICES

"Postpone Christmas?!" "Awww noooo!"
 "No toys this year?" "It' can't be!"
 "Santa won't let it happen! He just won't!!"

As the voices are heard, the snowflake patterns blowing toward the Camera slowly take on faint tinges of color.

Suddenly the swirling snow settles ~~revealing~~

~~MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT IN ANIMAGIC AND COLOR OF A SIGN STUCK INTO A SNOW-DRIFT.~~

~~"WELCOME TO CHRISTMASVILLE"~~

~~Signed...
 SANTA CLAU~~

~~CAMERA QUICKLY PULLS BACK AND AWAY FROM SIGN AND STARTS TO PAN.~~

We see a wonderfully fanciful, Wintery landscape.

MUSIC: HAS BLENDDED DURING TRANSITION FROM STORM THEME INTO A CHEERY, TINKLING, ICY MELODY WHICH UNDERSCORES.

The moving Camera quickly explores the magical, glittering world into which it has been plunged. Everything seems to be made half of ice and snow...and half of bright colorful Christmas boxes and wrappings. There are igloos with colorful ribbons for decorations. There are homes which look like great christmas packages turned into domiciles. Christmas candy dots the snowy terrane...as sea shells might dot the shore-line. A colorful, fairy-tale castle, made of twinkling, jewel-like ice blocks...dominates the background.

Action: Polar bear cubs frolic with seals. Whales splash about in the water. A few fanciful eskimos...in bright pastel furs...skip by carrying loads of Christmas cards.

AS THE CAMERA MOVES ACROSS THE LANDSCAPE, IT DISCOVERS A LITTLE, ROUND SNOWMAN WEARING A BLACK DERBY.

The snowman hails the Camera and it moves into him.

MEDIUM SHOT OF SNOWMAN.

He is a rolly-polly, Runyonesque, little fellow. Indeed, he might be the Nicely-nicely Johnson of snowmen. But his name happens to be Sam. He proceeds to talk to the Camera.

SAM

If I live to be a hundred...I do not forget them big snow storms a couple of years ago. The weather closes in and the world almost misses Christmas.
 (He shudders.)

CU OF SAM.

We note that his bow tie is made of holly.

(MORE.)

1-3

(SHOT CONT'D.)

SAM
(Confidentially to Camera.)
Which, as we all know, should not
happen to your worst enemy...much
less the whole world.

MEDIUM CU OF SAM. DIP. ANGLE.

SAM
Uh...excuse me. The name's Sam.
(He tips his derby and
shrugs.)
So I'm a talking snowman...sue me.
(He smiles..and winks.)

MUSIC: A BUOYANT, JOYFUL THEME UNDERSCORES.

CAMERA PULLS BACK AND FOLLOWS SAM AS HE WALKS THROUGH THE
QUAINT, BLUSTERY LANDSCAPE.

SAM
Anyway, I make my abode up here
in Christmas-ville. Better known
in the geography books as the
North Pole.

Sam trips over a small sign in the ground. A piece of his
foot breaks off into powdery snow. This does not disturb him
at all. He merely reaches down and pats some NEW SNOW onto
his leg...and is as good as new again.

SAM
(During above business)
...Which, considering my makeup, is
a fairly smart place to live.
(Personally it suits me fine.)
(He looks down at the sign
over which he tripped.)

CU OF SIGN:

"CHRISTMAS TREE FOREST"

An arrow points to the right.

SAM (VO)
"Christmas Tree Forest"

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF SAM WALKING INTO FOREST.

We see a grove of fully decorated Christmas Trees of all shapes
and sizes. Their lights twinkle brightly.

1-4

(SHOT CONT'D.)

SAM
(Arranging tinsel on
one of the trees.)
Yeah...nice place to live.

He walks on. A polar bear, dressed as a woodsman is chopping
down one of the trees.

CAMERA FOLLOWS SAM TO WOODSMAN.

SAM
Nice neighbors too.
(To Polar Bear Woodsman.)
Hi Pete.

BEAR
(Casually)
Hi Sam.

SAM
(Indicating tree.)
Where's that off to?

BEAR
(Looking at tag.)
Santa's marked it for a little
girl named Dina.

SAM
Glad to hear it!
(He waves a cool goodbye and
walks out of frame.)

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. OUTSIDE FOREST.

Sam walks out and continues to talk to Camera..which
MOVES IN AND FOLLOWS HIM.

SAM
Ya' see, all in all we are a
pretty friendly group.

He strolls past a group of seals.

MEDIUM SHOT OF SEALS.

They all hold paint brushes in their mouths. They are
busily painting stripes and decorations on Christmas
packages and hanging them out on a clothes line to dry.
Sam watches them for a second. Establish.

SAM
(Explaining to Camera.)
Christmas Seals. Yeah, we all keep
pretty busy up here.

1-5

MEDIUM CU OF SAM.

SAM
Of course, the number one citizens
up here are the Clauses. Santa and
Mrs. Personal friends of mine.
Want to meet them? Easy.
(Pointing.)
Right around the iceberg...across
the glacier their...

CAMERA MOVES AWAY FROM HIM AND FOCUSES ON LONG SHOT OF CASTLE.

SAM (VO)
..first castle on the left. Matter
of fact, the only castle on the left.

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR A CLOSER LOOK AT THE CASTLE.

It is a great beehive of activity...as small Elf-like people
dash in and out of doors carrying parts of toys.

SOUND: GREAT MACHINE NOISES. THE CHUG-CHUG OF STEAM ENGINES
AND GRINDING OF GEARS.)

CAMERA MOVES TOWARD WINDOW...AS IF TO GO INSIDE.

DISSOLVE TO

INTERIOR OF GREAT HALL OF CASTLE. LONG SHOT.

Toys and Christmas packages are stacked everywhere. Elves
run all over the place.

SOUND: WE HEAR A GREAT, HEARTY AND FAMILIAR "HO-HO!".
THE CAMERA MOVES AND PICKS UP A HUGE SHADOW ON THE WALL.

We recognize this as the traditional Santa Claus.

CAMERA MOVES OVER AND FOCUSES ON SANTA HIMSELF.

He is seated at a table. Mrs. Claus stands next to him.

CLOSE MEDIUM TWO SHOT OF SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS.

Santa is a bit of a disappointment at first...~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
much thinner than we expected. He looks like a hard-working
man...sitting at his dining room table in his shirtsleeves..
picking at his food. Mrs. Claus is a happy, but determined,
rotund housewife. She stands next to Santa and holds up his
traditional red and ermine suit.

(More.)

1-6

(SHOT CONT'D.)

MRS. CLAUS
Papa! You haven't touched a morsel.
Eat! I'll have to take this in.
(Indicates suit.)

SANTA
I'm busy, Mama. I have to practice
my Ho-ho's. It's almost Christmas.

MRS. CLAUS
(Holding suit up to him.)
~~Santa~~ Whoever heard of a skinny Santa?
Eat!

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM.

SAM
Pray, do not worry kiddies. Mrs.
Claus will have him plenty fattened
up by Christmas Eve. It's always the
same story.
(He looks up.)
Oh...?

MEDIUM LONG SHOT FROM LOW ANGLE...(SAM'S POV)

We see a large stork, dressed in a Mailman's suit. The Stork
flies over with a heavy sack of letters.

CAMERA FOLLOWS STORK AS HE SWOOPS DOWN AND LANDS NEXT TO SAM.

STORK
Hi, Sam.

SAM
Hi, Gus.
(Indicating letters.)
More Christmas orders ~~from~~ from the kids?

GUS
Yeah, from all parts of the World.
"Dear Santa...please bring me this.
Please bring me that." Whew!
(Flaps wings.)
Well, can't dawdle. Be seein' ya!

He flies off and out of frame.

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR MEDIUM CU OF SAM.

SAM
(Smiling..breathing deeply.)
Ahhhhhh...I loves this Christmassy time of year.

(SHOT CONT'D.)

1-8

MUSIC: UNDERSCORE WITH CHRISTMAS-CAROL THEME.

SAM

Especially when everything is running happy and smooth..like it is this season. Nothing like that year of the big snow storms.
(He shudders.)

CLOSE MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM. DIF. ANGLE.

SAM

Oh that was a terrible time. I do not know what we woulda' done without Rudolph to pull us through. Anyway...

He stops and looks at the Camera as if someone had asked him a question.

SAM

Huh? Rudolph! You heard of him? He's this reindeer. You know. Full fledged.. with the hatrack and everything.
(Puts hands to head like antlers.)

What?

(Surprised.)

Some of you are not acquainted with the story of Rudolph? Oh well, leave me fill ya' in on a few things.

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM.

He pulls up an ice-block and sits.

SAM

Well, ya' know how Santa uses these flying reindeer to pull his sleigh? Oh sure...they're famous..

He speaks the lines of the introduction to the song.. "RUDOLPH THE RED NOSED REINDEER".....AS MUSIC UNDERSCORES.

SAM

"You know Dasher and Dancer and Prancer and Vixen... Comet and Cupid and Donner And Blitzen.
But do you recall...
The most famous reindeer of all?"

1-8

DISSOLVE TO

OPENING TITLES...FULL ORCHESTRA

The title music is an overture of all the songs in the show except the Title Song. This we save for the closing.

At the end of the Opening Titles...

FADE OUT

END OF SECTION ONE

FIRST COMMERCIAL BREAK

SECTION TWO

SECTION TWO

FADE IN

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM. SAME AS END OF FIRST SECTION

SAM
(To Camera.)
So leave me tell ya' about Rudolph.
It all started a couple of years
before the big snow.

CAMERA SLOWLY MOVES IN TO CU OF SAM.

SAM
It was Springtime. We had a beautiful
Spring that year. Why the thermometer
got up to twenty below. Whew!

The background lighting becomes a warm yellow. Sam starts
to perspire. He picks up a sheet of ice and starts to fan
himself.

Suddenly he looks up and registers surprise.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT FROM LOW ANGLE OF GUS, THE STORK, FLYING
THROUGH THE BRIGHT SKY WITH A GREAT BUNDLE.

He circles and settles down next to Sam.

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. GUS AND SAM.

SAM
Christmas Orders?! At this
time of year?

GUS
Nah...got a routine delivery for
Mr. and Mrs. Donner. Ya' know..
Santa's lead reindeer?

Suddenly there is some movement in the bag. Gus springs up.

GUS
Wow! Better get a move on! Can't
be late with a package like this.

LONG SHOT. GUS FLIES AWAY.

2-2

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF ENTRANCE TO A CAVE. A HOLLY WREATH SURROUNDS THE NAMEPLATE: "THE DONNERS".

Donner, a large, blustering, proud reindeer paces back and forth nervously. His friend, Blitzen, is next to him, trying to calm him down.

BLITZEN
Relax, Donner.

DONNER
Ohhhhh, Blitzen! If anything should go wrong!!!!

BLITZEN
Easy, boy...I've been through this before. There's nothing to it!

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

There is suddenly the sound of whimpering from inside the cave. Donner stops in his tracks. He looks to Blitzen..he is plainly worried. Then he looks back to cave entrance.

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF ENTRANCE TO CAVE.

A fat seal, wearing a nurse's cap, waddles to the door. She smiles

SEAL
Mr. Donner....it's a buck!!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. INCLUDE SEAL, DONNER AND BLITZEN.

Donner is stunned for a moment. Then he jumps into the air and gives out a bellow of pure joy.

DONNER
A buck! I'm the father of a bouncing buck!!

SONG IDEA

Donner sings of the joys of fatherhood. "MY BOY-MY BOY" As he sings, other bucks join him. He hands out carrots as if they were cigars. All the bucks munch happily and sing their congratulations to him.

~~(S-C-E-N-E)~~

2-3

AFTER SONG:

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DONNER AND SEAL.

DONNER
Nurse, may I see him?

SEAL
(Nods yes.)
But you must be quiet.

They start to enter the cave.

CAMERA FOLLOWS THEM THROUGH THE ENTRANCE OF THE CAVE AND FRAMES MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF INTERIOR.

Nestled in the corner...in a pool of light, is Mrs. Donner, a beautiful doe. A tiny fawn is next to her...his head buried under her forelegs.

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF MRS. DONNER AND FAWN. ESTABLISH.

MUSIC: SOFT LULLABY UNDERScores.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. DONNER ENTERS THE FRAME.

DONNER
My buck! My little boy!

MRS. DONNER
Darling, I'm so happy [for you.]

DONNER
We'll call him Rudolph...after Rudolph the Great...the ancient king of the Reindeer.

CU OF MRS. DONNER.

She looks up at Donner with great love in her soft eyes.

MRS. DONNER
Yes, my darling.

MEDIUM CU OF DONNER.

Follow him as he struts around the cave proudly.

DONNER
Because that's whay my boy's gonna' be. The bravest, biggest, bestest, buckiest buck ever born! And one of these days he'll be racing right alongside me... pulling Santa's sleigh.

2-4

MEDIUM SHOT OF FAMILY GROUP.

~~Rudolph joins in~~ Donner has joined his wife and child.

MRS. DONNER
(Tenderly..looking down.)
Rudolph.

The little fawn starts to move.

DONNER
Hey! He knows his name already.

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR A CLOSE TWO SHOT AS DONNER PUTS HIS HEAD DOWN TO RUDOLPH.

DONNER
Rudolph...my son...Rudolph.

The little fawn slowly pulls his head away from his mother. As he turns toward Donner we see the cute little fellow for the first time. He has an appealing, spunky face. He is nose to nose with his father. All is quiet for a moment of pure enchantment. Then the baby deer blinks, smiles and....

SUDDENLY HIS NOSE LIGHTS UP A GLARING RED!!

SOUND: A DISCORDANT "BLEEPE"

RUDOLPH
(With a silly smile..in
a tiny voice.)
Pa..pa..

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

Donner is stunned. He pulls himself back and blinks..horrificed. Rudolph's nose goes out.

CU OF DONNER.

DONNER
(Breathing a sigh of relief.)
Must be seeing things. For a moment there...

MEDIUM SHOT. INCLUDE RUDOLPH, MR. AND MRS. DONNER.

DONNER
(Starts to laugh.)
Ha-ha. Seemed like he had a
shiny red nose...ha-ha-ha!

MRS. DONNER
Why, Donner, I'd say you were celebrating
with the boys. A shiny red nose indeed!

2-5

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT. DONNER AND MRS. DONNER ON EITHER SIDE OF RUDOLPH.

Rudolph looks from one to the other...and joins them with a cute, piping, silly laugh of his own. They seem a deleriously happy family...until Rudolph's nose blinks on again with...

SOUND: "BLEEPEEPE"!

Mamma and Poppa's laughs become frozen on their faces. Their horrified eyes move down to Rudolph, who continues laughing.. his little, red nose blinking and bleeping away.

Then Rudolph's laugh slowly fades away. He looks up at his parents with a questioning stare.

CU OF RUDOLPH

RUDOLPH
Ma-ma? Pa..pa?

CU OF MRS. DONNER.

MRS. DONNER
It is shiny!!

CU OF DONNER.

DONNER
SHINY?!! I'D EVEN SAY IT GLOWED!!!

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. MRS. DONNER WALKS UP TO DONNER.

MRS. DONNER
(Trying to calm her husband.)
Now dear...I'm sure it's..it's..

DONNER
(A bellow)
It's AWFULL!!! That's what it is!
(A horrible realization)
How will we face the rest of the herd?
(He walks out of the frame
in complete misery.)
Ooooooooooooo!

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR A CLOSE SHOT OF RUDOLPH.

He is a very confused little fawn. On wobbly legs, all by himself, Rudolph stumbles to his feet. He is very proud of this and his little nose beams.

RUDOLPH
Ma..ma. Pa..pa. See...me!

2-6

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF CAVE. DIF. ANGLE. INCLUDE ALL THREE.

The Donners, in the background, turn around. Rudolph, in the foreground...takes a step.

MEDIUM CLOSE TWO SHOT. DONNER AND MRS. DONNER.

They exchange a glance. Donner looks guilty. Then he smiles, his fatherly pride breaking through. He starts to exit out of frame.

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH. DONNER ENTERS FRAME.

DONNER
Look, mother! His first step! My
buck took his first step! Just
imagine that!!

His chest swells with pride. But then his eyes return to Rudolph's nose. It gives a great blink.

SOUND: HONK!

Donner's antlers sag like a collapsed beach chair.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

Mrs. Donner comes up to her husband.

MRS. DONNER
I'm sure something can be done about it.
We'll...we'll overlook it.

DONNER
How can we overlook that? His beak blinks
like a blinkin' beacon!! Why the darn thing
will keep us awake nights!!

SOUND: SUDDENLY THERE IS A HEARTY LAUGH FROM OFF CAMERA.

Donner and Mrs. Donner turn and look off to left.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF CAVE..CAMERA LOOKING TOWARD ENTRANCE.

Santa comes into the cave. He still does not wear his Santa-suit. He is dressed in a heavy lumber-jacket and hunter's cap. He looks like a sturdy, New England farmer.

SANTA
Well, where's the new member of the family?

He strides into the center of the cave.

2-7

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DONNER AND SANTA.

SANTA
After all, if he's going to be on
my team someday, he's got to get
to know me.

He laughs and exits from frame.

MEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH. SANTA ENTERS FRAME.

SANTA
Well Hi there! Aren't you the
sturdy little fellow!
(Pats Rudolph's head.)

RUDOLPH
San..ta?

SANTA
(Delighted.)
Smart too!

Pleased with himself, Rudolph starts to blink his nose.

SOUND: BLEEP-BLEEP-BLEEP!

Santa jumps back out of the frame. Startled.

CU OF SANTA.

SANTA
Great Bouncing Icebergs!!!

MEDIUM SHOT. DONNER RUSHES UP TO SANTA.

DONNER
Just a childish prank, Santa. I'm
sure it'll stop soon as he grows up.

SANTA
Well, let's hope so. He's a lovely
~~little fellow.~~

CU OF SANTA.

SANTA (Sadly.)
~~That~~ A nose like that would surely
disqualify him from my sleigh team.
~~He's...~~

(SONG)

*add
challenge
time song
to end!*

2-8

SONG IDEA

A song for Santa about the qualifications for being a Christmas Reindeer. It explains that to pull the sleighfull of toys is the highest job a reindeer can hope for. And only the best, and most perfect can make the grade.

~~SONG~~ DIALOGUE TO COVER SONG CUT

MEDIUM SHOT. INCLUDE SANTA, DONNER AND RUDOLPH.

SANTA

Well, that's the story.
(Pats Rudolph on head.)
Sorry, little feller.
(To Donner.)

Now..even if that nose does wash him out..I'm sure he'll be a wonderful son to you.

DONNER

(Glum.)
Yeah.

There is an awkward pause.

SANTA

(Clearing throat.)
Well...I've got to skedaddle. Little slowdown at the ~~the~~ candy-cane works. Ran out of stripes. Uhh...
(Starts off.)
S'long friends.

LONG SHOT OF CAVE. SANTA LEAVES.

DONNER

Yeah...so long.

Mrs. Donner comes to him.

MRS. DONNER

Oh Donner, cheer up. ~~Remember~~ Remember what Santa said. He'll still make a wonderful....

DONNER

Wait a minute!! I got it!!!

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DONNER AND MRS. DONNER.

DONNER

We'll hide Rudolph's nose!!

(MORE)

2-9

(SHOT CONT'D)

MRS. DONNER

Hide it?

DONNER

Yessir. No one will know about it except Santa. And he's the best secret keeper in the world.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF CAVE. DONNER WALKS OVER TO RUDOLPH.

DONNER

I mean he never lets children know what they're going to get until Christmas morning. Come here, boy.

MEDIUM TWO SHOT OF DONNER AND RUDOLPH.

Donner paws down into the dirt of the cave floor and picks up a hoof-full.

DONNER

You're going to be a normal little fawn..just like everybody elses! Right?

Rudolph nods yes. His nose blinks.. "Honk". Donner cringes and begins to pat the dirt around Rudolph's nose with his two front hooves.

DONNER

(While doing biz.)
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Shucks...a red nose doesn't bother me. But what will the others think? Let me see now...

He holds Rudolph's head up. The little nose is a murky black.

DONNER

Fine!

CU OF RUDOLPH.

His little eyes cross and look down at his nose.. He frowns.

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DIFF. ANGLE. RUDOLPH AND DONNER.

DONNER

Now you'll get used to it. Put it there...son!

He lowers his head. Rudolph does likewise. They butt their foreheads together with great, warm, comradly heartiness.

2-10

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF CAVE.

As Momma watches on from sidelines...Papa and Son begin to jump and trot around together.

DONNER
Son...great things are in store for you. Why...

SONG IDEA

Reprise chorus of "MY BUCK MY SON" only not with new lyrics pertaining directly to Rudolph. All about the things Donner will teach him as he helps him grow up. Rudolph joins in from time to time...in his piping voice...learning words from his father.

(S O N G)

AFTER SONG:

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH AND DONNER.

Mrs. Donner enters the frame. She smiles at her family.

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR A CLOSE, THREE SHOT OF HAPPY FAMILY PICTURE.

She gives Rudolph a great, splashy, deer kiss. Unfortunately, her kiss washes away the covering from Rudolph's nose..and it gleams brighter than ever.

SOUND: BLEEPEREEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEPPPP!!

Rudolph is pleased with this and smiles happily. The parents exchange a worried look over Rudolph's head...but do not break the loving embrace.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM CU OF SAM WHO SPEAKS TO CAMERA.

SAM
Well, for the first year the Donners do a pretty fair job in hiding Rudolph's... eh...nonconformity. After all, he is just a little baby. And little babies do not have to mix much with polite society.

2-11

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF RUDOLPH AND DONNER OUTSIDE THEIR CAVE... HORSING AROUND IN THE SNOW...FATHER AND SON STYLE. RUDOLPH'S NOSE GLOWS HAPPILY.

SAM (VO)
Donner teaches Rudolph all the ins and outs of being a Reindeer. How to get food. How to fight off enemies. Stuff like that. But most important...

SOUND: SUDDENLY THERE IS A GREAT, HIDIOUS, COMBINATION GROWL AND SHRIEK OFF CAMERA.

CU OF DONNER.

His head whips around with an alarmed look on his face.

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF DONNER AND RUDOLPH.

Donner pulls Rudolph closer to him. Rudolph looks confused. THE LIGHTING AND MUSIC SUDDENLY BECOME COLD AND UNFRIENDLY.

SOUND: THE LOUD TREAD OF HEAVY FEET.

SPECIAL EFFECT: THE CAMERA SHAKES WITH EACH FOOTSTEP

MEDIUM LONG SHOT.

Donner pulls Rudolph behind a snowbank to hide.

SAM (VO)
Most of all he teaches his son to beware of...

Suddenly large, claw-like feet quickly pass in front of the camera. We do not see the rest of the creature.

SOUND: UGLY PANTING AND GIMMERING.

SAM (VO)
The Abominable Snow Monster of the North! He's mean and nasty...and he hates anything to do with Christmas!! So whenever he comes barging in...us peaceful types run for cover.

The feet pass and the footsteps fade away.

2-12

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

We can see great footprints in the snow. Rudolph and Donner come out from behind the snowdrift and stand in the huge prints. They are almost a foot deep!

CU OF DONNER.

DONNER
Someday, son...we'll be rid of
that Abominable Snow Monster. Then
Christmasville will be safe for good!

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH AND DONNER

Rudolph shudders and presses up against his father.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM.

SAM
So it just goes to show ya'...no matter
where ya' live...Even where it's Christmas
every day. Ya' can't get along with all
the neighbors.
(He smiles.)
But aside from the "Abominable",
business goes on up here as usual.

CAMERA MOVES AWAY FROM SAM AND FRAMES A LONG PANORAMIC SHOT
OF CHRISTMASVILLE LANDSCAPE.

Snow is falling on an angle from Right to Left.

SAM (VO)
Spring passes and soon it is Summer.

DISSOLVE TO

PANORAMIC SHOT OF LANDSCAPE. DIFFERENT ANGLE. SNOW FALLING
ON AN ANGLE FROM LEFT TO RIGHT.

SAM (VO)
Summer passes into Fall.

DISSOLVE TO

PANORAMIC SHOT. DIFF. ANGLE. SNOW FALLING STRAIGHT DOWN.

SAM (VO)
And soon...it is right before Christmas.

2-13

CAMERA DOLLIES THROUGH SNOW UP TO SANTA'S CASTLE.

The Lighting darkens to a deep blue..as if nighttime.
Bright lights shine inside the castle..throwing their warm
glow outside onto the snow.

CAMERA MOVES UP TO ONE OF THE WINDOWS AND GOES INSIDE.

LONG SHOT OF LARGE ASSEMBLY ROOM WITH ELVES SITTING AT A LONG,
WOODEN TABLE, WORKING ON TOYS.

SAM (VO)
(During above action)
....and we all work nights. Yes,
this is truly the busiest time of
the year. Everybody is gettin' ready
for that big, big sleighride on the
night of the 24th. Now all the toys
Santa brings on Christmas Eve are
made by these here Elves.

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR A CLOSER SHOT OF THE ELVES WORKING. IT
NOW BEGINS TO DOLLY ALONG THE TABLE FOR MEDIUM CLOSEUP VIEWS
OF THEM HAMMERING AND TIMBERING AND PAINTING.

MUSIC: PEPPY, WHIMSICAL AIR UNDERSCORES.

SAM (VO)
Seems Elves got this certain knack for
toy-makin'! I mean they really thrive
on it!! Don't think of nothin' else,
hardly. All except for this one misfit...

CAMERA SUDDENLY STOPS. FOCUSES ON MEDIUM CU OF ELF CALLED HERMEY.

Hermey is a true Elf and wears the traditional Elf suit. However,
he looks more like a normal, little boy. His ears are not pointed
and his features are regular. In contrast with the other elves..
who have been going at toymaking with a great gusto..Hermey is
lost in daydreams and is dawdling with a paintbrush..slowly and
laconically painting a red wagon.

SOUND: A VOICE BELLOWES FROM OFF CAMERA.

VOICE
HERMEY!!!

Hermey sits up.

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. HERMEY AND ELF FOREMAN.

The Elf Foreman is a round, fat little fellow with ~~traditionally~~
traditional, Elf features. He has a booming voice.

FOREMAN
Ain't you finished painting that yet!!?
(Holds up half painted wagon
in disgust.)

(MORE.)

2-14

(SHOT CONT'D.)

Hermey shakes himself awake from his day dreams.

FOREMAN
You been dawdling over that one
wagon all morning!!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. DIP. ANGLE. FRAME OTHER ELVES.

All Elves glare down at "hermey angrily.

FOREMAN
There's a pileup a mile wide behind
you. What's eating you, boy?

HERMEY
(With a weak smile.)
Not happy...uh...in my work...uh...I guess.

FOREMAN
WHAT!!?

CU OF HERMEY.

HERMEY
I...just...uh...don't like to make..
uh..toys.

CU OF FOREMAN:

FOREMAN
Oh well, if that's all...
(Double take.)
YOU DON'T LIKE TO MAKE TOYS?!!

MEDIUM TWO SHOT OF HERMEY AND FOREMAN.

HERMEY
Uhhh...no.

Foreman turns to Elf next to him. Speaks to him.

FOREMAN
Hermey don't like to make toys!

This Elf turns around and speaks to Elf next to him.

CAMERA PANS DOWN TABLE AS EACH ELF PASSES ON THE MESSAGE TO
THE NEXT.

(MORE)

2-15

As the Elves pass along the message they pick up a rhythm.

ELVES
1. Hermey don't like to make toys!
2. Hermey don't like to make toys!
3. Hermey don't like to make toys!
4. Hermey don't like to make toys!
5. Hermey...
6. Hermey...
7. Hermey...
8. Hermey...
9. Hermey don't like to make toys!!

LONG SHOT OF WHOLE GROUP. ALL LAUGH IN RHYTHM.

ELVES
Ha! Ha-ha! Ha-ha-ha-ha!
An Elf who don't like to make toys!!

~~SONG IDEA~~
~~The Foreman starts to sing a song~~
~~which informs Hermey that Elves are~~
~~supposed to love making toys. There's~~
~~no two ways about it. The other Elves~~
~~join in the song...hahaha mocking~~
~~Hermey.~~

~~(SONG)~~

AFTER SONG:

MEDIUM TWO SHOT OF FOREMAN AND HERMEY

FOREMAN
(Sarcastic.)
Do ya' mind telling me what you do
want to do?

CU OF HERMEY.

HERMEY
(Answering eagerly.)
Well sir...someday...I'd like to
be...a...a...
(The most wonderful thing
in the world.)
...A...Dentist!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. HERMEY, FOREMAN AND OTHER ELVES.

FOREMAN
A DENTIST!!!!!!?

(MORE)

2-16

(SHOT CONT'D.)

The other Elves laugh.

FOREMAN
Whoever heard of an Elf dentist!!!

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. HERMEY AND FOREMAN.

HERMEY
Well, we need one up here! I've been studying up.
(He takes a thick textbook out from under the table.)
It's fascinating. You have no idea...
(As the Foreman stares at him with unbelieving eyes, Hermey goes on as if he were describing a beautiful landscape.)
Molars...and bicuspid...and incisors...

CU OF FOREMAN. HE DOESN'T QUITE KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF THIS. HE SCRATCHES HIS HEAD.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. FRAME FOREMAN AND OTHER ELVES.

FOREMAN
(To Other Elves.)
Guys! Come here!

CAMERA FOLLOWS THEM AS THEY LEAVE HERMEY AND GATHER IN A LITTLE CIRCLE ABOUT THE FOREMAN.

MEDIUM CLOSE LOW ANGLE SHOT OF ELVES. AS IF TAKEN FROM INSIDE A HUDDLE.

FIRST ELF.
He's a disgrace to Elfdom.

SECOND ELF
What if the other Christmasville folks find out?

THIRD ELF
Our reputation will be ruined!!

FOREMAN
ALRIGHT!!!ALRIGHT!!!! I'LL HANDLE THIS!

The huddle breaks up.

LONG SHOT. ELVES MARCH BACK TO HERMEY.

FOREMAN
Now listen, you. You're an Elf.

(MORE.)

2-17

(SHOT CONT'D.)

FOREMAN (CONT'D.)
And Elves make ~~any~~ toys. That's the way it is....and that's the way it's always been!

TWO SHOT. HERMEY AND FOREMAN.

FOREMAN
(Picks up half painted wagon
Shoves it at Hermey.)
Now get to work!

SOUND: A FACTORY WHISTLE BLOWS.

FOREMAN
Ten minute break!
(Hermey smiles and leaps up.)
Not for you!!
(He pushes Hermey down again.)
Finish the job!!

LONGSHOT. ELVES, FOREMAN AND HERMEY.

The Foreman and all the other Elves leave Hermey alone at the table.

MUSIC: SAD THEME UNDERSCORES....BUILDING TO SONG.

CAMERA SLOWLY MOVES IN TO HERMEY.

Tears start to trickle down his little cheeks. He half-heartedly picks up a wagon. Then he puts it down. He reaches under table and brings out his dentistry textbook..he opens it and reads it as if it were Shelly.

CAMERA HAS NOW MOVED IN TO A MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT.

Hermey starts to sing mournfully...

SONG IDEA

Hermey sings first chorus of "MISFIT" ^{AK}
number...which will be reprised later
by Rudolph...and again still later by
the both of them.)

(S O N G)

2-18

AFTER SONG:

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF SAM.

SAM
(Philosophic.)
Ahhhh...such is the life of an Elf.
Meanwhile, Rudolph is having his
growing pains too.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF OUTSIDE OF CAVE. AS SAM TALKS (VO) CAMERA MOVING INTO CAVE AND FRAMES MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF RUDOLPH AND PARENTS.

SAM (VO)
Old Donner is determined to keep
Rudolph's nose a secret.

Mr. and Mrs. Donner stand with Rudolph, who is bigger and has a more developed personality...comparable to a child of seven. Donner stands on his hind paws and holds a black nose-cap in his two front hooves.

DONNER
Try it on!

RUDOLPH
(Whining. His nose blinking.)
I don't wanna'....Daddy...I don't like it!

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DONNER AND RUDOLPH.

DONNER
You'll like it and wear it!!!

RUDOLPH
+ Aww...but Daddy...

DONNER means business. He pops the artificial nose over Rudolph's gleaming red nose. It is an unpleasant looking thing.

CU OF RUDOLPH WITH PHONEY NOSE. ESTABLISH.

MEDIUM CLOSE TWO SHOT. MR. AND MRS. DONNER.

MRS. DONNER
Oh Donner...do you really think...?

DONNER
Now...don't make things any more
difficult than they have to be.
Why it looks fine, Rudolph, just fine.

2-19

CU OF RUDOLPH

RUDOLPH
(Speaking as if he had
a head cold.)
It's not berry com-fa-ble.

TWO SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. RUDOLPH AND DONNER.

DONNER
There's more important things than
comfort. Self respect!! Santa
can't object to you now!

RUDOLPH
I veel ra-dôg-alus!

DONNER
No arguments!! What a way to talk
to your poor father...after he's gone
to all this trouble and expense.

Rudolph walks away sadly...out of frame. Mrs. Donner enters frame. Stands with Donner. Both look after their little fawn...sadly. Establish.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. OUTSIDE OF CAVE.

Rudolph comes to the cave entrance and looks out mournfully. As snow falls about him, he ~~sings~~. Removes false nose and sways.

SONG IDEA

Second chorus of "MISFIT" number.
Lyrics similar to Hermey's, but
pertaining to Rudolph.

(S O N G)

AFTER SONG:FADE OUTEND OF SECTION TWOSECOND COMMERCIAL BREAK

3-1

SECTION THREE

FADE IN

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM.

SAM

And so time passes. Christmas comes and goes on schedule..and soon it is April.

DISSOLVE TO

LONG SHOT OF A GROUP OF REINDEER GAMBOLING IN THE SNOW. THE CHRISTMAS TREE FOREST IS IN THE BACKGROUND.

SAM (VO)

Now April is a real important time if ya' happen to be a reindeer. Cause that's when all the new (fawns) *female?* come out with their folks and meet one another. Everybody gets together by the Christmas Tree Forest.

SECTION THREE

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR CLOSER SHOT. PAN OVER GROUPS OF DEER.

We see young and frisky deer and their proud parents behind them. All are framed by the bright Christmas Trees.

SAM (VO)

Ya' see, for a whole year the fawns have been mere little nothin's..and now, all of a sudden, they have got to be what's called....yearlings.

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR MEDIUM SHOT OF THE DONNERS AND RUDOLPH.

Momma fusses around him...seeing that he is neat. Poppa adjusts the large, ugly nose. Rudolph is like a fourteen year old boy. He seems very awkward and unsure of himself.

SAM (VO)

And it is no small jump from nothin' to yearling. It is like having to earn six merit badges all at the same time.

Rudolph begins to balk.

RUDOLPH

Aw..Ma...Paw...I don'd need adybody else. You're blendy for me.

SAM

Nonsense! If you want to be one of Santa's reindeer...go out an assert yourself. Larn to get along with the others. *Who are you holding back?*

3-2

CU OF RUDOLPH.

His little eyes cross and look down at the ugly, false nose.

MEDIUM CLOSE TWO SHOT. DENNER AND RUDOLPH.

DENNER
Now..nobody's going to notice that!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT.

Denner pushes Rudolph off with his antlers.

DENNER
Now, go on!

Mrs. Denner comes to Denner as Rudolph exits reluctantly from the frame.

MEDIUM TRAVELING SHOT. RUDOLPH WALKING ALONG SHYLY.

He walks up to a frisky yearling named Fireball. He pretends not to see him. But Fireball calls...

FIREBALL
Hi! My name's Fireball! What's yours?

RUDOLPH
Hoo-doff.

FIREBALL
Put it there!

The two yearlings butt heads. Like two kids getting acquainted.

FIREBALL
You talk funny. Got a cold in your nose or something?

CU OF RUDOLPH. HE LIES AND NODS YES.

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. FIREBALL AND RUDOLPH.

FIREBALL
Hey...bet mine's bigger than yours.
(Starts to trot away.)

RUDOLPH
(Alarmed...trotting after him.)
Your nose!!!

CAMERA FOLLOWS ACTION AS THEY TROT ALONG.

FIREBALL (MORE.)

3-3

(SHOT CONT'D.)

FIREBALL
Who's talking about noses? I mean the old super-structure. Antlers!
(Confidentially..stops.)
Got ya' bumps yet?

RUDOLPH
Uh..huh.

CLOSE TWO SHOT.

Rudolph holds his head down. Two little knobs of horn show.

FIREBALL
(A knowing appraisal)
Saasy...not bad. But take a gander at these!
(Holds his head down. Rudolph looks.)
C'mon.
(He leads Rudolph out of the frame.)

RUDOLPH
Where we going?

MEDIUM TRAVELING SHOT. RUDOLPH AND FIREBALL.

FIREBALL
We gotta join the other kids. Gotta play games!

RUDOLPH
Games?

FIREBALL
Reindeer games. Healthy and necessary my old man says. Make antlers grow. Beside...
(He stops. Turns to Rudolph and leers.)
..it's a great way to show off in front of...dames!

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

RUDOLPH
Oh. Eh..what are dames?

FIREBALL
(With a knowing wink.)
Like ya' mother. Only not quite.. and better. Come on!
(He prods Rudolph along.)

3-4

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM.

SAM

Meanwhile, the Elves are still bustling with activity. Christmas is over, but Elves never relax. If they are not making toys they keep busy with lessons and elf-improvement.

CUT TO CU OF ELF FOREMAN. HE BELLOWES...

FOREMAN

ALL OUT FOR ELF PRACTICE!!!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF INTERIOR OF HALL OF CASTLE.

A group of the Elves are getting into formation. They face the Foreman.

FOREMAN

Quiet! Quiet everyone.
(They quiet down.)
Now as we all know we have got to have a new Elf song..to sing while we happily make toys and stuff for the good little kiddies. Right?

ELVES

Right boss.

MEDIUM CU OF ELF FOREMAN.

FOREMAN

So I am happy to announce that I have finally wrote a song that's fitting and proper. And as soon as Santa gets here...we'll try it out for him. Now ya' all got ya' music?

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. SAME AS BEFORE.

ELVES

(Hold up their music.)

Yup!

Suddenly the door opens and Santa enters with Mrs. Claus. He is clearly busy, harried and in no mood for this demonstration.

CAMERA FOLLOWS THEM OVER TO TWO CHAIRS.

SANTA

Now let's get this over with. I've got to go down and look over the new deer.

(MORE.)

3-5

(SHOT CONT'D.)

MRS. CLAUS

(Obviously delighted with the whole thing.)

Don't hurry! Just do a nice job!!

LONG SHOT. FOREMAN AND ELVES.

The Foreman gives a Lawrence Welk downbeat.

FOREMAN

And one and two and three...

SONG IDEA

All the Elves start to sing a short, comically-cliche, treacly, happy-little-Elves song. Much "he-he-he" and "ho-ho-ho", "jolly-jolly" and all that. Coy and cloying gestures and facial expressions go with it. We keep cutting back to Santa...who groans and obviously doesn't like it. Mrs. Claus, however, bobs her head happily and looks enchanted by the whole thing.

(S O N G)

AFTER SONG:

MEDIUM SHOT OF SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS.

Santa sits for a long moment. All is silent. Then he gets up and announces.

SANTA

It needs work!

He exits out of the frame.

SOUND: WE HEAR A DOOR SLAM.

Mrs. Claus rises indignantly.

MRS. CLAUS

What does Papa know? It's beautiful.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. MRS. CLAUS AND ELVES AND FOREMAN.

Mrs. Claus

You keep it just the way it was.

Papa...Papa....

(She exits out of frame.)

3-6

MEDIUM SHOT. DIP ANGLE. ELVES AND FOREMAN

FOREMAN
(Furious)
That sounded terrible. What's
wrong with you guys? The tenor
section was weak!!

AN ELF
Wasn't our fault, boss. Hervey
didn't show up.

FOREMAN
WHAT!! Where is that little...
(Stops himself.)
I bet I know!!
(To Elves.)
Run over it again. I'll be right back.

He dashes out of the frame.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF SMALL ROOM IN CASTLE.

Dolls are stacked all over the place in various stages of completion. Hervey is seated at a long table...he has several dolls propped up before him. All have their mouths open.

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR CLOSER SHOT OF HERVEY

The little Elf is in heaven.

HERVEY
Now this won't hurt a bit.

The door to the room bursts open and the Foreman charges in.

FOREMAN
WHY WEREN'T YOU AT ELF PRACTICE!!!!

HERVEY
(Jumps)
Just fixin' these doll's teeth.

CU OF FOREMAN.

FOREMAN
You leave the dolls to me! Santa is
very happy with them...not to mention
a worldfull of little girls.

3-7

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. FOREMAN AND HERVEY

FOREMAN
We got dolls that cry, talk, walk,
blink and run a temperature! We
don't need no chewin' dolls!

HERVEY
I...I just thought I found a way to..
to..fit in.

FOREMAN
You'll never fit in!
(He exits out of frame.)

MEDIUM SHOT OF DOORWAY.

Foreman enters frame and stands by doorway. He points out.

FOREMAN
Now you come to Elf practice and
learn how to wiggle ya' ears and
chuckle warmly and go "he-he" and
"ha-ha" and important stuff like that!!

CU OF HERVEY. REACTION. HE FROWNS.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF ROOM. INCLUDE HERVEY AND FOREMAN.

FOREMAN
A dentist! Good grief!!

He leaves in a huff, slamming the door behind him. Hervey starts to follow. But then stops.

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF HERVEY.

HERVEY
No! I just can't! It's like he
said. I'll never fit in.

He makes a decision. He turns and goes back to table.

LONG SHOT OF DOLL ROOM.

Hervey gets his dentistry textbook from the table. He packs it under his arm. He goes toward the door again...then changes his mind. He goes to the window and starts to climb out.

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF HERVEY AT THE WINDOW.

HERVEY
(Looking back.)
I...I...guess I'm on my own ~~by~~ now.

3-8

DISSOLVE TO

LONG SHOT OF DEER FRISKING AROUND IN FRONT OF CHRISTMAS TREES FOREST. CAMERA MOVES IN FOR CLOSER SHOT OF RUDOLPH PLAYING WITH FIREBALL.

Suddenly Fireball stops and points with his head.

FIREBALL

Hey look! Dames!

Rudolph looks around shyly.

MEDIUM SHOT OF A GROUP OF PRETTY, LITTLE DOES. THEY GIGGLE AND ONE OF THEM WINKS.

MEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH AND FIREBALL.

Rudolph looks surprised. Then he grins.

FIREBALL

Hey! Whaddaya know, kid. One of 'em likes ya'! Ha-Ha!

RUDOLPH

Yeah Fireball? You really think so?
(He winks back.)

SOUND: A BLAST FROM A WHISTLE.

FIREBALL

Uh-oh. Better can it, kid. Here comes the coach.

CU OF RUDOLPH. HE LOOKS DISAPPOINTED. THEN HE SMILES.

CLOSE SHOT OF DOES. ONE IS SMILING AT HIM.

LONG SHOT OF ALL DEER. SKIPPER, THE COACH, FRANCES UP TO THEM.

SKIPPER

Allright, yearlings...

CU OF SKIPPER.

He is a large buck with a whistle around his neck. He wears a baseball cap, and the minute he speaks we recognize the reindeer counterpart of the eternal gym teacher and scoutmaster.

SKIPPER

My name is Skipper. And even though I'm your instructor, I want to be your pal. My job is to make bucks out of you! Let's go!!

(MORE.)

3-9

(SHOT CONT'D.)

He tosses his head in the air. Whistle snaps up and he catches it in his mouth and blows it.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF SKIPPER AND YEARLINGS.

SKIPPER

Butting practice! Butting practice!
Everybody line up!!

The Yearlings line up into two teams, facing one another.

MUSIC: COLLEGE FOOTBALL THEME UNDERSCORES SEQUENCE.

Skipper blows his whistle again...and the two teams go at it. The game is little more than running and crashing their heads.

CU OF SKIPPER.

SKIPPER

Fine, men, fine. Oooh! But that was a nice one!

LONG SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. BUTTING PRACTICE.

MEDIUM SHOT OF DOES. REACTION.

They are like highschool girls at a football game.
DOES: "Crash that line! Crash that line!"

LONG SHOT. BUTTING PRACTICE.

MEDIUM SHOT. DONNER AND MRS. DONNER.

Donner smiles proudly.

LONG SHOT. BUTTING PRACTICE.

Skipper trots into the center and blows his whistle again.

CU OF SKIPPER.

SKIPPER

Rest period. Rest period.

MUSIC: FOOTBALL THEME OUT.

3-10

MEDIUM SHOT OF FIREBALL AND RUDOLPH. BOTH ARE WINDED.

FIREBALL
Hey, that dame really goes for you!
Now's your chance. Go over and get
acquainted.

Rudolph giggles like a gawky kid...then trots off eagerly.

MEDIUM SHOT OF CLARICE, THE DOE WHO WINKED AT RUDOLPH.

She is a fetching, little thing...with great beautiful deer-eyes.
Rudolph trots into the frame. He looks at her and stops.
They exchange glances...then look away shyly. Slowly their
eyes come together again and meet. They smile.

CLARICE
Nice day.

+ RUDOLPH
(After a long Garry Cooper pause.)
Yup.

CLARICE
For ^{take off} ~~butting~~ practice...I mean.

RUDOLPH
(Pause.)
Yup.

CLARICE
1 but You're the best.

RUDOLPH
(Blushing.)
~~Aww, it was nudding.~~
Gee, ya Really Th w, so?

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

CLARICE
Is something wrong with your nose?
(Rudolph stiffens.)
I mean..you talk kind of funny.

RUDOLPH
(Turning away. Hurt and
embarrassed.)
Whad's so fuddy about the way I talk.

CLARICE
Well don't get angry. I don't mind.

3-11

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR A TIGHTER SHOT.

RUDOLPH
(Amazed.)
Ya' don'd?

CLARICE
My name's Clarice. Hi.

RUDOLPH
My name's Roodoff. Hi.

CLARICE
Hi.

RUDOLPH
Hi.
(There is a pause.)
Yup. Well...

CLARICE
Yes?

RUDOLPH
Hey..Clarice...hey...after ~~prmt~~ ^{prmt} ~~pragdice~~..
Would you...would you....
20 or 30 sec. skip
SOUND: ~~SLEEPER'S WHISTLE OFF SCREEN.~~ *small comet saying Rudolph - get back it's yoda time*

~~CLARICE~~
RUDOLPH
Gee!
~~Awww, shuggs.~~ I gotta go bacg.
(Rushes off..turns back
and asks in one breath.)
Would-you-walg-homb-wid-be?

CLARICE
(Blushes...nods yes.)
Uh..huh, Rudolph?

TIGHT TWO SHOT. DIF. ANGLE.

Clarice whispers into Rudolph's ear.

CLARICE
I think you're cute.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

Rudolph is electrified. He leaps into the air like a gazelle.

RUDOLPH
I'm cuce...I'm cuce!!!!

He leaps out of the frame.

CAMERA FOLLOWS HIS GREAT LEAP. WHEN HE LANDS, IT IS IN FRONT
OF SKIPPER.

3-18

CONFIDENTIAL
(Please do not cover the name)
Valley... No 2 of 1012 1011

RUDOLPH
(With a silly grin.)
I'm cude! I'm cude! She said I'm cude!
(He leaps right out of the frame
again.)

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF GROUP OF REINDEER? THEIR EYES FOLLOW
RUDOLPH'S TRAJECTORY. THEY ARE AMAZED.

MEDIUM SHOT. MRS. AND MR. DONNER. SANTA COMES UP BEHIND THEM.
ALL LOOK UP.

Not bad. Not bad at all!

MEDIUM SHOT OF FIREBALL. HE IS LOOKING UP. SUDDENLY RUDDY

Hey! You're okay, kid!

She said I'm cude! Ha-hah!!

CAMERA FOLLOWS ACTION AS...
They good-naturedly butt their heads together. This leads to
some ~~rather~~ exuberant horseplay.

Suddenly Rudolph's false nose comes off. The red nose beams forth like a brilliant flare.

SOUND: HOOOOOOOOONNNNNKKK!

Fireball stops in his tracks.

CU OF FIREBALL. HORRIFIED REACTION.

For cryin' out loud!!! **FIREBALL**

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

Rudolph goes up to Fireball.

Fireball? RUDOLPH
What's the matter?

Get away...get away from me.

(MCHM₂)

(SEOT CONT'D.)

Skipper trots into the frame and stands between them.

SKIPPER
 Now..now..now. What's this nonsense
 here, Bucks?
 (Sees Rudolph's nose.)
 Eeaaaaa!!!!!!ccchhhkkk!

LONG SHOT FROM HIGH ANGLE. OTHER DEER BEGIN TO GATHER AROUND RUDOLPH. They start to laugh at him.

DEER
Hey...look at the beak!

SECOND DEER
Hey, Fire-snoot!

THIRD DEER
Rainbow-pass!

FOURTH DEER
Bright shnoz!!

RUDOLFE
Stop calling me names.

They continue to laugh.

MEDIUM SHOT OF SANTA AND DONKER. SANTA FROWNS.

SANTA
Donner!! You should be ashamed
of yourself. What a pity. He was
a good jumper too.
(He angrily exits out of
the frame.)

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. DONNER AND MRS. DONNER.

DONNER
Aw come on, let's go home.
(Calls.)
Rudolph! Come home this instant.

Both start off.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. RUDOLPH AND OTHER DEER.

RUDOLPH
Right away, Papa.
(He starts off.)

DEER
S'long...candle-nose!

(MORE.)

3-14

(SHOT CONT'D.)

Furiously, Rudolph turns back to them.

RUDOLPH

What's wrong with a red nose, anyhow.

All continue to jeer at him. Some pull ornaments off the trees and hurl them at him.

CLOSE TWO SHOT. RUDOLPH AND FIREBALL

RUDOLPH

You're still my buddy...huh?

FIREBALL

Buddy!!!? Go way!! I don't want to know any red nosed reindeer. What'll people think!!!?

FIREBALL trots away.

CU OF SKIPPER.

He flips whistle into his mouth and blows it.

SKIPPER

Alright yearlings, back to practice.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. HIGH ANGLE. REINDEER BEGIN TO FORM RANKS AGAIN.

Skipper rushes over to Rudolph and pulls him away.

SKIPPER

Ohhhh no. Not you.

CU OF SKIPPER.

SKIPPER

You'd better go home with your folks. Nobody wants a red-nosed reindeer on their team.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. FROM DIFFERENT ANGLE.

SKIPPER

(To others.)

From now on...we won't let Rudolph join in any reindeer games!!

Rudolph looks at them for a second...then rushes away..holding back the tears.

3-15

CAMERA FOLLOWS HIM AS HE RUNS INTO CHRISTMAS TREE FOREST.

MEDIUM SHOT OF CLARICE.

CLARICE

Rudolph!!

She rushes off after him.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF CLEARING IN FOREST.

Rudolph rushes in. He stops and tries to get his breath. Clarice ~~sings~~ enters and stops short when she sees him.

RUDOLPH

(Defensive.)

Well...what do you want?!

CLARICE

You...you promised to walk me home.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIF ANGLE. CLARICE AND RUDOLPH.

RUDOLPH

Aren't you going to laugh at my nose, too?

CLARICE

I think it's a handsome nose. Much better than that silly false one you were wearing.

RUDOLPH

It's terrible. It's different from everybody else's.

CU OF CLARICE.

CLARICE

That's what makes it so grand. Why any doe would consider herself lucky to be with you. Why...why you could light the way for her.

TIGHT TWO SHOT OF RUDOLPH AND CLARICE.

CLARICE (Speaking rapidly.)

And...and think how safe she'd feel. She could see the Abominable Snow Monster a Mile off. And...and look at all the good you could do for the world. Why Rudolph ~~comes~~, you're...you're a walking light house. That's what you are!

(MORE.)

3-16.

RUDOLPH
(He is very pleased..he swallows
hard, then...)
Yup...

CLARICE
And beside...look how much better
you can speak now.

RUDOLPH
(A smile breaking through.)
Gee...Clarice....

SONG IDEA

Deliriously happy, Rudolph sings
a wonderfully exuberant "I'VE GOT
A GIRL" type song. Clarice joins
him for a real, cute boy-girl number.
Maybe even a little hind-legged
hoofing can be thrown in.

(S O N G)

AFTER SONG:~~EIGHTEEN~~ TIGHT TWO SHOT.

Clarice sidles up to Rudolph...very close. They touch their
faces together...and start to walk away like a couple of
teenagers who have decided to go steady.

SOUND: SUDDENLY A HARSH, MASCULINE VOICE BOOMS OUT.

VOICE
CLARICE!!!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. RUDOLPH, CLARICE AND OTHER LARGE REINDEER.

CLARICE
Papa.

FATHER
You get back to your cave this instant!

CLARICE
But...

FATHER
This instant, young lady!!

CLARICE
Yes sir.

With a sad look to Rudolph, she turns and leaves.

3-17

MEDIUM SHOT. DIF. ANGLE. FATHER AND RUDOLPH.

FATHER
Now there is one thing I want to make
very plain. No doe of mine is going
to be seen with a red-nosed reindeer!!

RUDOLPH
But..

FATHER
I have nothing more to say!!

RUDOLPH
Now, see here, sir...

MEDIUM LONG SHOT.

Angrily, Clarice's father easily lifts Rudolph up on his
antlers. He tosses him away into a bank of snow.

FATHER
That...young man, will teach you
to talk back to me!

He leaves.

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR CLOSER SHOT OF RUDOLPH IN SNOW DRIFT.

A tiny ornament falls off one of the trees and hits him on
the head. This is the last straw. Rudolph groans.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIF ANGLE.

Rudolph starts to get up. Suddenly there is a movement in the
snow next to him. Rudolph looks down...startled. Finally
Hermey, the misfit Elf, sticks his head out.

HERMEY
Oh! Is this your snowbank!?

RUDOLPH
No..o. What are you?

HERMEY
(His chest puffing with pride.)
Well, actually I am a dentist.

RUDOLPH
(Puzzled.)
A den..tist?

CU OF HERMEY.

~~THE END~~

#*L' 3-18

CU OF HERMEY.

HERMEY
(Deflating.)
Well...I want to be...someday.
Right now, I'm just an elf.

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH AND HERMEY. DIF ANGLE.

RUDOLPH
Oh...you work for Santa Claus?

HERMEY
I quit.

RUDOLPH
I thought I'd work for Santa someday, too.
But...I....guess...I quit too!
(Puzzled.)
Uhhhh....what's "quit" mean?

HERMEY
Walk out. Run away.

RUDOLPH
I guess that's me.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. HIGH ANGLE. THE TWO LITTLE FELLOWS ARE DWARFED BY HIGH CHRISTMAS TREES.

HERMEY
(Shouting with great bravado.)
Me..I don't need anybody! I'm
independent!!!

RUDOLPH
(Shouting.)
Me too?!! Independent!!!!

Their shouting knocks some snow and ornaments from the trees.
It lands with a crash. They jump and huddle together.

TIGHT TWO SHOT.

HERMEY
Hey..what do you say we both be
independent together? Huh?

RUDOLPH
You wouldn't mind my red nose?

HERMEY
Not if you don't mind me being a
dentist.

RUDOLPH
Deal!

3-19

SONG IDEA

They both sing the third chorus
of "MISFITS". They comically
bemoan their mutual fate.

(S O N G)AFTER SONG:

CAMERA SLOWLY PULLS BACK TO EXTREME LONG SHOT OF THEM
GOING OFF. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ THEY LEAVE THE FOREST OF CHRISTMAS TREES.

SAM (VO)

Now these two little guys did not
know what they was lettin' themselves
in for. When ya' have to go out and
face it, ya' find that the world's
a lot more complicated and dangerous
than it seemed when you were snug and
warm at home.

REWORKING

DURING ABOVE...DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. EXTERIOR. NIGHT.

The eerie, Arctic, midnight-sun throws strange shadows on the
ground. An icy wind is blowing. Hermy and Rudolph trudge
onto the scene. Rudolph's nose leads the way and adds a touch
of color.

SOUND: SUDDENLY THE CHILL NIGHT IS BROKEN WITH THE WEIRD AND
TERRIBLE CRIES OF THE ABOMINABLE SNOW MONSTER.

MEDIUM SHOT.

Hermy and Rudolph stop.

HERMEY
The "Abominable"! He must have
our scent.
(Holds his hands over
Rudolph's nose.)
Douse the light.

RUDOLPH
(To build up courage.)
Aww...it's not the "Bomable". It's
just...the...wind!

HERMEY
Yeah...sure...the wind....

The two little chums huddle together...shivering with fear.

3-20

CAMERA MOVES UP AND OVER TO A JAGGED HILLSIDE, SILHOUTTED AGAINST THE MIDNIGHT SUN.

ZOOM INTO HILLSIDE.

A huge claw reaches up from behind the hill. Slowly the lumbering Silhouette of a hairy, part-bear...part-apelike creature pulls itself up. We hold on this apparition for just a second.

SU OF SAM.

SAM
Like I said...the outside world
is up to its ears in dangers.

SOUND: THE TERRIBLE HOWL OF THE MONSTER.

Sam shudders.

FADE OUT

END OF SECTION THREE

THIRD COMMERCIAL BREAK

SECTION FOUR

SECTION FOUR

FADE IN

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF BEED IN SNOWY, MOUNTAIN PASS

An ice-crusted path climbs along the side of a steep cliff. Wind howls and snow blows furiously. Establish.

Rudolph and Hermy wearily trudge into the frame..along the path. Great icicles have formed on them.

BEED (VO)

Well, somehow or other they managed to get ~~xxx~~ through the first night. But, believe me, by the next morning they are two miserable, little misfits....let me tell you.

Rudolph stops. Hermy turns to him.

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. RUDOLPH AND HERMEY.

RUDOLPH

I can't go another step.

HERMEY

(Flopping down into the snow.)

Me neither. Something tells me this is ~~xxx~~ not the way to become a dentist.

Rudolph shines his nose and Hermy warms his hands around it.

SOUND: WE HEAR A FEARSOME CRY OFF SCREEN: "MUSH!"

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

Rudolph and Hermy leap to their feet. Another cry: "MUSH!"

RUDOLPH

What's that? The "Bomable"?

HERMEY

Don't sound like it.

VOICE (OFF CAMERA.)

MUUUUUUUUUUSSSSSSSSHHH!

RUDOLPH

Sounds worse!!!

The two of them make a leap and hide in a snow drift.

4-2

LONG SHOT. RUDOLPH AND HERMEY'S REAR ENDS STICK OUT OF THE SNOW IN THE FOREGROUND.

In the distance we see a dog sled and team. It comes closer and we note that this is probably the saddest team of dogs this side of Jack London. A mangey Collie, Dachund, Foodle, St. Bernard and Cocker Spaniel do their worst...at getting mixed up in the reins...while attempting to pull a rickety sleigh in about six directions at once. The sleigh is piled high with all kinds of junk. In the back sits a huge, happily red-whiskered screwball with guns, knives, shovels, pick-axes and knapsacks strapped all over him. He wields a large whip which he keeps snapping over the dogs' heads. The dogs couldn't care less.

The Dog Team and Sleigh come up to the Camera. The man yells.

CORNELIUS

(For that is his name.)

MUSH! MUUUUUUUSSSSHHH! (Come on)

MEDIUM CU OF CORNELIUS.

CORNELIUS

Whatsa matter, doggies...don't ya' understand North Pole talk? MUSH!!

MEDIUM SHOT OF DOGS.

They look back up at him with reactions ranging from acute boredom to eager and happy supplication. They yap loudly.

MEDIUM SHOT.

Cornelius looks down and spies Rudolph and Hermies' hindquarters sticking out of snow. He whispers to his dogs.

CORNELIUS

Odsbodkins!! Varments!!

He leaps out of the sleigh, tiptoes on his snow shoes over to our friends, and then takes one in each hand and lifts them into the air...shaking the snow off their terrified faces.

CORNELIUS

STRAAAAAAAAAAANNGE critters of the North!

He drops them both into the snow again. Then he leaps back and draws two huge guns from his belt.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIP. ANGLE.

~~THUNDER~~ Cornelius's voice thunders and snow falls from the trees and rocks with its reverberations.

(MORE.)

4-3

(SHOT CONT'D.)

CORNELIUS
What are you two farments doin' on mah claim!!? I'll blast ya' ta' kingdom come. I'll blow ya' ta' kingdom gone!

HERMEY and Rudolph shudder.

MEDIUM CU OF CORNELIUS.

CORNELIUS
Take that! Oh scourge of the North!!

He pulls one of the triggers. There is a pathetic little pop and a cork flies out of one of the guns.

CORNELIUS
Got ya' tremblin'...hah? Now take this!

He pulls the other trigger. There is a great BLAST of powder.

SCREEN FILLS WITH SMOKE.

When the smoke clears a little piece of shot rattles down the barrel and falls to the ground.

TIGHT TWO SHOT. HERMEY AND RUDOLPH. INCREDULOUS REACTION.

MEDIUM SHOT. INCLUDE ALL THREE.

CORNELIUS
Well die...blast it!! Ya' been shot!!
(Suddenly sobbing.)
Awwwww...Gaw-gone! Ahh doo wish Ah
could afford real bullets. Baaww...waaaaww.

Herney and Rudolph rush to him.

RUDOLPH
Oh don't cry.

HERMEY
We don't want ~~that~~ to steal anything.

CORNELIUS
Wa-al why didn't ya' say that in the first place. Scare a man half outta his boots!

RUDOLPH
W..who are you!

4-4

FOLLOW CORNELIUS AS HE BOUNDS ABOUT EXPLAINING HIMSELF.

CORNELIUS
The name's Yukon Cornelius...
(Leaps up on a rock..bellows.)
..THE POOREST MILLIONAIRE IN THE NORTH!!
(Jumps down and sits with his head in his hands.)
The last of the forty miners.
(Leaps up again.)
Ninteen Forty Nine, that is.

TWO SHOT. HERMEY AND RUDOLPH REACTION...THEY ARE AWED.

MEDIUM SHOT OF CORNELIUS. CAMERA FOLLOWS HIM.

CORNELIUS
Ahhhhhgot a claim on this land. By thunder and wonder...I knows this here land is rich with gold!
(Roaring so that the Camera shakes.))
GOOOOOOOOOLLLLLLIDDDDD!!!!
(He begins to sing.)

SONG IDEA
(TANGO) Take the lines..."I lust for Gold. I thirst for Gold, etc" and turn them into a wild song which Cornelius breaks into any time the subject comes up. He always accompanies this with a sort of Bizarre choreography in which he stomps the snow and pounds the ground with his fists.

(S O N G)

AFTER SONG: Finish with line...something about him "Starving for Gold".

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT.

CORNELIUS
(Slumping to the ground.)
But right now I'd settle for a plate of soup. I ain't ett nothin' but dog biscuits since Tuesday a week ago.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. INCLUDE ALL THREE..AND DOGS.

RUDOLPH
Dog biscuits?!

4-7

MEDIUM SHOT OF MONSTER. IT SCREAMS TRIUMPHANTLY.

MEDIUM SHOT OF CORNELIUS.

CORNELIUS

Anythin' I hate is a noisey 'Bumble
Snow Monster!!

(Furious.)

Scatt now!! B'wan...afere I turn
ya' into Bumbleburgers!!

LONG SHOT. OUR FRIENDS IN THE FOREGROUND. THE MONSTER LOOMS
IN THE BACKGROUND.

Monster starts toward them....arms outstretched ala Frankenstein.
Rudolph and Herney cringe behind Cornelius.

CORNELIUS

Bumbles just don't understand plain
English!!!

(Jumping up and down.)

We'll have to outwit the fiend with
our superior intelligence.

RUDOLPH

H..how?

CORNELIUS

Run like crazy!! C'mon!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. DON'T INCLUDE MONSTER.

Cornelius sweeps Rudolph and Herney back onto the sleigh with
the dogs. Then he starts off...pulling the whole shebang at
about sixty miles an hour. He "waahhooos" and the dogs yap.

MEDIUM TRAVELING SHOT. CAMERA AHEAD OF ACTION. MONSTER IN
HOT PURSUIT OF SLEIGH.

MUSIC: CHASE THEME.

LONG TRAVELING SHOT. CAMERA BEHIND ACTION.

As the Monster pursues our friends, he keeps reaching out his
long arms. But Cornelius keeps one step ahead of him.

LONG SHOT. THE EDGE OF A BODY OF WATER.

Our friends come to the frozen shore line. They are trapped!!

RUDOLPH

We're trapped! There's no way out!!

The Monster laughs and calmly starts to close in. It is as if
he is toying with our friends before he makes the kill.

4-8

CU OF CORNELIUS

CORNELIUS

Don't be askeered. The Bumble has
one weakness...an' I knows it!!

MEDIUM SHOT. DON'T INCLUDE MONSTER

Cornelius takes out his pick-axe and quickly chops the ice on
which they are standing. This is accompanied by much grunting
and yelping from our nutty friend. Suddenly the ice breaks
away and starts to float out into the water.

LONG SHOT. OUR FRIENDS AND THE DOGS ON ICE FLOATING AWAY FROM
SHORE LINE. THE FERIOUS MONSTER IS ON THE BANK.

CORNELIUS

Do-it-yourself icebergs!! Har..Har..

He grabs a shovel and starts to paddle away. The Monster starts
after him.

MEDIUM SHOT. CORNELIUS.

He suddenly becomes quite professorial.

CORNELIUS

Observe....the Bumble's one weakness....

MEDIUM SHOT OF MONSTER. He steps into the water and goes right
down to the bottom.

MEDIUM SHOT. CORNELIUS

CORNELIUS

The Bumble...sinks!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT..SHORELINE.

The monster crawls back on the ice, yelps and growls and shows
his ugly teeth. Our friends are obviously out of range.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. THE ICEBERG.

Cornelius looks back at the Monster, crosses his eyes, puts
his fingers into his ears and sticks out his tongue at it.
He jumps around like a triumphant, idiot schoolboy...practically
upsetting the iceberg.

CORNELIUS

Naaaaahhh! Naaaaaah! Can't
catch us!!

4-9

CAMERA FOLLOWS HIM AS HE LEAPS TO THE TOP OF BERG AND POSES HEROICALLY.

CORNELIUS
Yukon Cornelius scores again!! Whoopee!
(He tosses his pick-axe into
the air. It comes down into
the ice. He examines, tastes and
smells what it dug up.)
Nothin'!!

Then he slides down the iceberg up to Rudolph and Hermey.

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH AND CORNELIUS.

RUDOLPH
(Worried by this nut.)
Uhhh...Mister, where are we going?

CORNELIUS
You're gonna' stay with me. And we're
gonna' be rich. Rich, I tell ya'. With
the gal-darndest Silver strike this side
o' Hudson Bay! Silver....

SONG IDEA

He goes into his crazy tango again.
Only this time the word silver replaces
Gold.

AFTER SONG:

MEDIUM SHOT. HERMEY, CORNELIUS AND RUDOLPH.

HERMEY
I thought you wanted gold!

CORNELIUS
(Roaring fiercely.)
I changed my mind!!
(He slides to the ground.)
I'm hungry.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIF ANGLE.

One of the dogs hands him a biscuit. He munches on it.

TIGHT TWO SHOT. HERMEY AND RUDOLPH.

They exchange worried, incredulous glances.

4-10

LONG SHOT.

The little iceberg drifts away from the Camera into the strange,
midnight sun.

SAM (VO)
Yessir, our friends were really
on their way. Of course, they
didn't know where they were going.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF INTERIOR OF DONNER'S CAVE.

As a worried Mrs. Donner watches, Donner paces back and forth.
He is very worried and remorseful.

SAM (VO)
Now you can bet that old Donner
felt pretty bad about the way he
treated Rudolph. He knew about
the dangers outside...

Donner looks toward Cave door...shudders.

SAM (VO)
And he knew the only thing to do
was to go out and look for his
little buck.

MEDIUM SHOT. AT CAVE ENTRANCE.

Donner starts out. Mrs. Donner comes to him.

SAM (VO)
Mrs. Donner wants to come along,
naturally. But the old man says no!
It's man's work.

Donner shakes his head no...and exits through cave door...into
snow.

CU OF MRS. DONNER. A TEAR RUNS DOWN HER FACE.

SAM (VO)
But ya' never can figure a female.
Even when she happens to be a doe.

MEDIUM SHOT OF CAVE. DIF ANGLE.

Clarice enters...goes to Mrs. Donner.

SAM (VO)
And no sooner did the man of the
house leave, then Mrs. Donner and
Clarice decide to set out on their own.

(MORE.)

4-11

(SHOT CONT'D.)

The two does leave the cave.

SOUND: CRIES OF THE "ABOMINABLE".

SAM (VO)

They were really taking their chances..
but I guess they were pretty worried
about Rudolph.

DISSOLVE TO

A SCREEN CLOUDED WITH FOG.

SAM (VO)

And they were right...too. Cause
ya' see, that little ice boat had
run into a pack of mighty wicked fog.

FOG BREAKS A LITTLE AND WE SEE A MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF OUR FRIENDS
ON THE ICEBERG. CORNELIUS PEERS AHEAD.

CORNELIUS

Gal darn it! Fog's thick as peanut butter.

HERMEY

You mean pea soup!

CORNELIUS

(Furious.)
You eat what you like...I'll eat what
I like...

MEDIUM SHOT. HERMEY AND RUDOLPH WITH CORNELIUS.

HERMEY

But...I...only...

RUDOLPH

(Worried..indicates that
Hermy should not argue.)
It's hopeless.

CORNELIUS

(Peering through fog.)
Hopeless peanut butter! Worst kind!

RUDOLPH

But where are we?

CORNELIUS

Now don't fret. We're somewhere...I
know that! Right!!!?

~~RUDOLPH~~

(SHOT CONT'D.)

RUDOLPH

(Not too sure.)

Uh..huh.

SOUND: EERIE, WIND-LIKE HUMMING OF WOMEN'S VOICES. ECHO EFFECT.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIF ANGLE.

HERMEY

(Terrified.)

What's that!!

CORNELIUS

(Grim.)

The snow-sireeeeeeens! Dad blast 'em!

RUDOLPH

W..what are the snow sirens?

CORNELIUS

Take a gander over yonder.

A patch of fog clears revealing...

LONG SHOT OF AN ENCHANTING, BLUE, GLOWING ICEBERG.

Beautiful mermaids, made of blue snow and ice, comb their
silvery hair and beckon to our friends.

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF BEAUTIFUL MERMAID, ESTABLISH.

TIGHT THREE SHOT. CORNELIUS, RUDOLPH, HERMEY.

CORNELIUS

(Trembling.)

Hold mah eyes, fellers! Don't let me
git a glimpse of them creatures. If Ahh
do...Ah'll be overcome and we'll run
aground!!

Hermy and Rudolph cover Cornelius's eyes.

LONG SHOT OF ICEBERG GOING PAST MERMAID.

~~SONG START~~

~~SONG~~ ^{MUSIC} for Mermaids ~~to sing~~
to entice our friends to them. As
the ~~song~~ finishes, our friends drift
safely past them.

(S O N G)

4-13.

AFTER SONG:

MEDIUM SHOT OF OUR FRIENDS.

As soon as they are safely past the mermaids, they breathe a sigh of relief.

CORNELIUS
Safe! Them's the bane of existence
fer a sailor like me.

HERMEY
You said you were a prospector.

CORNELIUS
(Roaring.)
Only difference between a sailor and a
prospector's a little bit a' ~~water~~ ^{water}!
(Looks around..does a take.)
HEY! Now I know where we are. Them snow
sireens guard the passage to the..the..
Island of Lost Toys.

RUDOLPH
Island of Lost Toys? I never heard of
that.

CORNELIUS
Course not!! If everybody knew 'bout
it, the toys wouldn't be lost!!

Suddenly the iceberg hits with a thump and everybody falls over.

MEDIUM CU OF CORNELIUS. HE BELLOW.

CORNELIUS
LAND HO!!!!

LONG SHOT OF ISLAND OF LOST TOYS.

The little iceberg has bumped into a beautiful, fairy-tale island.
The snow is colored in pastel shades and the ice glitters like
multi-colored jewels. A golden castle rests on a rainbow hued
cloud in the sky above the island. ESTABLISH.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT.

Our friends climb off the iceberg and onto the Island. Rudolph
and Hermey are overwhelmed by it's beauty. They run ahead and
look around in awe. Cornelius shouts at his dogs.

MEDIUM SHOT. CORNELIUS AND DOGS.

CORNELIUS.
Stay here...and don't give up the ship!!

4-14

CLOSE SHOT OF RUDOLPH. HE IS IMPATIENT.

RUDOLPH
C'mon!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. SAME AS BEFORE.

CORNELIUS
Oh yeah.
He jumps off and joins them.

CAMERA FOLLOWS THEM AS THEY WALK ALONG THE SHORE LINE.

Suddenly Cornelius points up.

CORNELIUS
Looky up there!!!

Rudolph and Hermey look up.

SHOT OF A MAGNIFICENT, BLACK WINGED LION, FLYING THROUGH THE
SKY. A GOLDEN CROWN RESTS ON ITS NOBLE HEAD.

CORNELIUS
That's Moonracer. King of the Island
Of Lost Toys!

MEDIUM SHOT OF OUR FRIENDS. ALL LOOK UP.

HERMEY
K..king?

In amazement, he leans against a large, brightly colored box.
The top flips off and a jack-in-the-box pops out. All spring back.

MEDIUM CU OF JACK-IN -BOX.

JACK -IN-BOX
Of course he's the king. If it
wasn't for him, all us toys wouldn't
be here.

TIGHT SHOT OF OUR THREE FRIENDS.

CORNELIUS
That Jack-In-The-Box is the sentry.
His name's...

RUDOLPH
Jack?

CORNELIUS
I 'Course not. It's Charley!!

RUDOLPH (looking up.)
Are you a lost toy, Charlie?

4-15

MEDIUM SHOT. CHARLIE AND OUR FRIENDS.

CHARLIE

Indeed I am. And it's a pitiful thing to be. However King Moonracer searches the entire earth...every night. When a careless child loses a toy, he finds it and bring is here to live on his island. We are happy here...and very grateful. For the outside world is not kind to lost toys.

HERMEY

Everybody who lives here is a lost toy?

CHARLIE

Look around. See for yourself.

SONG NUMBER

Charlie starts what will be the biggest production number in the show. He sings of the wonders of living on the Island. Our friends run up a hill. As they get to the top they look around and see a wonderful terrane. As the rest of the toys join the song our friends look down on villages of doll houses which dot the landscape. Dolls and stuffed animals and toy soldiers walk around and play games, etc. An electric train rushes around its track, its riders are other singing toys. Balls bounce around of their own free will and the streets are full of small toy automobiles. Everyone and everything has a voice...including the electric train...who is a basso-profundo...and stutters. Our friends walk on...(we keep cutting back to them during song..using them as a frame of reference.) Indeed we make ~~us~~ a short tour of the Island..and we see all the toys living in their natural habitat. Finally our friends return to Charlie, the Jack-In-The-Box, as the song ends.

(S O N G)AFTER SONG:

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. CHARLIE AND OUR FRIENDS

CHARLIE

Well, now that you've seen our Island... what do you want of us?

CORNELIUS

(A bellow.)

GOOOOOOOOOLLLLLLDDDD!

(MORE.)

4-16

(SHOT CUT'D.)

Hermey and Rudolph grab ahold of him.

CU OF RUDOLPH.

RUDOLPH

(Looking up.)

No sir..not gold. We're lost. And we'd simply like to spend the night here.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. SAME AS BEFORE.

CORNELIUS

Oh sure...that too.

CHARLIE

Well, you'll have to get permission from King Moonracer. He's holding Court in his castle now.

HERMEY

Oh fine! Eh...how dowe get up there.
(Looks up.)

SHOT OF CASTLE FLOATING HIGH ON ITS GOLDEN CLOUD.

CU OF JACK-IN-BOX.

CHARLIE

Simple.
(He whistles.)

LONG SHOT. CHARLIE AND OUR FRIENDS IN FOREGROUND.

Suddenly we see three kites appear over the horizon. They sail toward our friends.

MEDIUM SHOT OF KITES FLYING.

They all have happy, friendly faces and whoop through the air like kids playing games.

LONG SHOT. SAME AS BEFORE.

CHARLIE

Just grab their tails as they go by!!

HIGH ANGLE SHOT. KITES IN FOREGROUND. CAMER A LOOKS DOWN TO OUR FRIENDS. (MORE.)

4-17

(SHOT CONT'D.)

As the kites pass over our friends, they grab ahold of the tails and are whisked up into the air.

CHARLIE
Take them to King Moonracer.

LOW ANGLE SHOT. LOOKING UP...AT KITES WITH OUR FRIENDS.

The kites swirl about and our friends, hanging on for dear life, snap about...as if at the end of a cracking whip. With much ad lib shouting and whooping, they're taken up to the cloud.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. EDGE OF CLOUD ON WHICH CASTLE IS PERCHED.

The kites and our friends enter from left. The kites lower their passengers onto the cloud...then fly away.

MEDIUM THREE SHOT. RUDOLPH, HERMEY AND CORNELIUS.

RUDOLPH
(Calling after kites.)
Thank you....

CORNELIUS
Ahhh just know this place is rich in diamonds. I'm gonna' dig me a diamond mine.

SONG
He goes into his tango. This time about diamonds. XOK

HERMEY
'(Impatient)
Oh come on!!!

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFF. ANGLE.

CORNELIUS
Yeah. Follow me, men. I'm an old hand with these King types.
(They start off.)

Wait.
(He digs his axe into the cloud.. he feels, tastes and smells the fuzzy material it brings back.)
Nothing! O'mon! Stop wasting time.

HE picks them both up. Camera follows them as they enter the castle.

4-18

DISSOLVE TO

LONG SHOT OF THRONE ROOM.

This is a beautiful, golden hall. At one end, on a slight elevation, sits Moonracer. The King is a beautiful animal. A perfectly formed lion with two huge, graceful wings. His coat and mane are midnight black...and stand out magnificently against the glittering colors surrounding him.

He roars. Our friends, at one end of the hall, pull back.

MOONRACER
Do not be afraid. That merely was my greeting.

MEDIUM SHOT OF OUR FRIENDS.

CORNELIUS
Oh! Well if that's the case...
(Roars like a lion)
...to you to!

HERMEY
Shhhhhhhh.

MEDIUM SHOT OF THRONE.

MOONRACER
Come closer.

Our friends come up to him. They bow down.

MOONRACER
Please...that is not necessary.
What do you desire?

CORNELIUS
GOOOOOLL....

HERMEY
(Clamping his hand over Cornelius's mouth.)
We'd like to spend the night, sir.

MOONRACER
Stay as long as you wish. This is a friendly island. You are welcome here.

RUDOLPH
Oh thank you, sir.
(His nose glows brightly.)

CU OF MOONRACER.

He starts at the sight of Rudolph's nose. He pulls back and frowns.

4-19

(SHOT CONT'D.)

MOONRACER

That nose!

MEDIUM SHOT OF THRONE. DIP. ANGLE.

RUDOLPH

I..I..can't help that, Your Majesty.

MOONRACER

I'm sure that you cannot, little fellow.
But..but..it strikes me as a bad omen.

CORNELIUS

(Shaking Hermey away.)
That's right, yer honor. It's a bad
omen!! Good, old fashioned, healthy
bad omens are few and far between. Why,
it's just pure good luck that you found
this bad omen!!

MEDIUM CU OF MOONRACER. HE IS CONFUSED BY THIS LAST.

MOONRACER

I..uh..don't quite follow..

SOUND: SUDDENLY WE HEAR THE CRY OF THE "ABOMINABLE" IN THE
DISTANCE.

MOONRACER

(Jumping.)
The Abominable Snow Monster! He's close by!

MEDIUM SHOT OF THRONE ROOM. DIP ANGLE.

CORNELIUS

Yup..that Bumble's right on our tails!

MOONRACER

I knew it.
(To Rudolph.)
You bring the Abominable Snow Monster
upon us! I am sorry, Reindeer...but you
must leave our Island by morning. The
others may stay.

CORNELIUS

Now that ain't fair!!

HERMEY

It's not his fault...it's...

MOONRACER.

I HAVE SPOKEN! OFF THE ISLAND BY DAWN!!!
(He roars loudly.)

4-20

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF INTERIOR OF SMALL DOLL HOUSE. NIGHT.

SAM (VO)

Well Rudolph, bein' a decent-type
reindeer, could not see his good
friends thrown out..because of his
nose.During above we have picked out the forms of Cornelius and Hermey..
tight asleep in the little beds. They are crowded to say the least.

Rudolph, who has been sleeping on the floor, gets up.

SAM (VO)

So that night he decides to strike
out on his own.

Rudolph goes to the door, looks back and crawls out.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH FLOATING AWAY FROM THE ISLAND ON A SMALL
PIECE OF ICE.

RUDOLPH

(Looking back.)
Goodbye, Cornelius..I hope you find
your fortune. Goodbye Hermey..whatever
a dentist is...I hope someday that
you're the greatest.

LONG SHOT OF RUDOLPH FLOATING OFF INTO THE ARCTIC NIGHT...ALONE.

SOUND: CRIES OF THE SNOW MONSTER ARE HEARD IN THE DISTANCE.

FADE OUTEND OF SECTION FOURFOURTH COMMERCIAL

SECTION FIVE

SECTION FIVE

FADE IN

MEDIUM CU OF SAM THE SNOWMAN.

SAM

Well, the months dragged on and on.
Rudolph existed as best he could.

DISSOLVE TO

LONG SHOT OF RUDOLPH TRUDGING WEARILY THROUGH A SNOWY VALLEY.

SAM (KVO)

The Snow Monster kept him on the
run, but once in a while he would
stop and make a friend..or two.

MEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH PLAYING WITH A COUPLE OF CUTE, BABY
POLAR BEARS.

SAM (VO)

But it wouldn't last long.

The mother polar-bear comes along...is shocked by Rudolph's
nose and roars an order at him...she points away. Rudolph
leaves sadly.

SAM (VO)

And Rudolph would be on his own again.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF RUDOLPH FROM THE REAR.

He is drinking from an icy stream. We do not see his head.

SAM(VO)

But during all that time..a strange
and wonderful thing was happening.

Rudolph suddenly raises his head to reveal a glorious set of new
antlers.

SAM (VO)

Rudolph was growing up.

He walks away.

CAMERA TRAVELS ALONG WITH RUDOLPH AS HE WALKS THROUGH VALLEY.

He is a handsome and noble reindeer. But his nose glows more
brightly than ever.

(MORE.)

5-2

(SHOT CONT'D.)

SAM (VO)

And the growin' up bit made Rudolph
realise one thing. And that was...
ya' can't run away from yer troubles.

Rudolph stops walking and holds his head high.

SAM (VO)

And learning that...he knew where
he had to go. Home!

DISSOLVE TO

LONG SHOT OF CHRISTMASVILLE. CAMERA MOVES IN TO A GROUP OF
REINDEER GRAZING ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE FOREST.
Rudolph enters. The deer all stop and look at him strangely.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF RUDOLPH CONFRONTING THE OTHER DEER.

OTHER DEER

You? I thought you were gone for good!
Look who's back! Old neon-nose!
(All laugh.)

Rudolph frowns at them.

MEDIUM CU OF RUDOLPH

He holds his head even higher and turns his back on the other
deer. He trots away.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF ENTRANCE TO HIS CAVE.

Rudolph trots up to it. He calls out.

RUDOLPH

Mom!? Paw!? I'm home!

He goes inside.

MEDIUM SHOT OF INTERIOR OF THE CAVE. IT IS EMPTY.

Rudolph looks around hopelessly. Suddenly we hear Santa's voice.

SANTA (OFF CAMERA.)

They're gone, Rudolph.

Rudolph looks around.

5-3

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. SANTA AND RUDOLPH.

SANTA stands in the cave entrance. (Still not in red suit.)

SANTA

They've been gone for months...out
looking for you.

RUDOLPH

Clarice?

SANTA

She's gone too. And I'm very worried.
Christmas Eve is only two days off.
And without your father, I'll never be
able to get my sleigh off the ground.

RUDOLPH

I'll find him, sir. I'll find them all!

He turns and trots outside cave.

MEDIUM SHOT. OUTSIDE CAVE.

Rudolph trots out. He pauses for a second. Looks from R. to left.

SAM (VO)

Well, he was just about to leave...
when suddenly...it hits!

The screen becomes filled with swirling snow. Rudolph is
blown off his feet.

SOUND: PIERCE WINDS.

SAM (VO)

The storm of storms. Where it comes
from we never know. And only two days
before Christmas Eve...too.

MUSIC: DISASTER, STORM THEME. SAME AS OPENING OF SHOW.

SHOT OF WINDS RIPPING SHINGLES OFF SANTA'S CASTLE

SHOT OF IGLOO BEING OVER-TURNED

SHOT OF CHRISTMAS PACKAGE HOUSE BEING BLOWN TO PIECES

SHOT OF AVALANCHE OF SNOW COVERING ANOTHER LITTLE BUILDING.

SHOT OF TREES IN CHRISTMAS FOREST BEING BLOWN OVER.

SPECIAL SHOT: THE SCREEN IS FILLED WITH SWIRLLING SNOW. ANIMALS,
ELVES, PACKAGES, CANDY AND TOYS FLY HELTER SKELTER THROUGH THE AIR

5-4

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM TRAVELING SHOT OF RUDOLPH PUSHING THROUGH SNOWSTORM.

Ice and snow have formed on his antlers...and he looks half frozen. But his nose shines with grim determination..throwing its red glow over everything.

SAM (VO)

Now Rudolph knew that he had to find his folks right away. Nobody could last long out in a blizzard like that!

Rudolph stumbles over something. He looks down. Distressed reaction.

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DIF ANGLE. RUDOLPH AND DONNER.

Rudolph sees that he has stumbled over the prone form of his father...lying in the snow..half buried, injured and seemingly near death.

RUDOLPH

Paw!

Donner stirs slightly.

CU OF DONNER.

DONNER

(Weakly.)

~~Excuse me~~ R..Rudolph? Why..why you're a great big feller..just like I always knew you'd be.

TIGHT TWO SHOT. RUDOLPH BENDS DOWN TO FATHER.

RUDOLPH

What happened?

DONNER

The Snow-Monster, son. I fought him off the best I could. But he captured your mother and Clarice. I warned them not to come out after you.

RUDOLPH

I've got to get you back.

DONNER

It's...too...late...son. Try..and.. save...the...does...

Donner falls back into the snow. He is gone.

RUDOLPH

Oh Poppa...Poppa...I brought this on you!

5-5

SOUND: THE CRIES OF THE ABOMINABLE SNOW MONSTERS.

MEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH. DIF. ANGLE.

RUDOLPH

(Springing up.)

Mamma...Clarice.

He exits out of frame.

QUICK DISSOLVE TO

LONG SHOT. LOW ANGLE. RUDOLPH CLIMBING UP A HIGH AND CRAGGY MOUNTAIN.

Several times he slips and almost falls. But he regains his footing. He looks exhausted.

SAM (VO)

Well Rudolph...he follows the sounds of that monster's cries. And he ~~has~~ is led up the side of ~~the~~ tall mountain. He is really winded..but he continues. Cause he knows he is getting closer and closer...and minutes count!

SOUND: CRIES OF THE SNOW MONSTER MINGLED WITH HOWLING WINDS.

MEDIUM CU OF RUDOLPH

RUDOLPH

Can't go...one...step...more...

SOUND: CRIES OF HIS MOTHER AND CLARICE.

RUDOLPH

(Pulling himself up.)

Got to...got to...

(He trudges out of frame.)

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF ENTRANCE TO A UGLY LOOKING CAVE.

The formation of rocks and snow make the hillside look like a giant skull. The entrance to the cave looks like a menacing mouth

Rudolph comes up to the cave, leans against the side of the hill, catches his breath....then peers inside.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF INTERIOR OF CAVE.

Great, black and dripping stalagmites hang from the ceiling. The Snow Monster has Clarice and Mrs. Donner cornered. His ugly teeth are bared and his mouth is watering.

EE

5-6

CU OF THE MONSTER FROM DOE'S POV. THE TEETH GLISTEN,

CU OF RUDOLPH. HE IS FURIOUS.

RUDOLPH
Don't you dare!!

MEDIUM CU OF MONSTER.

He turns around. Sees Rudolph. He smiles wickedly.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. RUDOLPH AND MONSTER.

Rudolph blinks his nose brightly. The Monster starts toward Rudolph. He makes a lunge. Rudolph side-steps and the Monster crashes past him. To break his fall, the Monster grabs on to a stalagmite..which comes off in his hand. The brave deer lowers his head. He intends to charge the monster with his antlers. He makes contact. The monster ~~hisses~~ cries out. Then he spins about and crashes the stalagmite down on Rudolph's head. Rudolph is stunned. The Monster grabs him by the antlers and flips him over his shoulder. Rudolph lands with the Does. He is knocked out. The Monster roars with laughter.

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH AND DOES.

CLARICE
(Much more grown up.)
Is he..is he..

MRS. DONNER
No Clarice, he's still alive.

SOUND: MONSTER ROARS.

MRS. DONNER
But Rudolph was our last chance.
We're done for. Done for.

CU OF MONSTER. IT LAUGHS HIDIOUSLY..AND STARTS TOWARD CAMERA.

DISSOLVE TO SAM. HE HOLDS HIS EYES....AND IS SHUDDERING.

SAM
Tell me when it's over.
(Looks up..surprised.)
Oh! Yeah...where was I? Let's see.
Their last chance? Not quite! They
had one more chance. Ya' see, ever
since Rudolph left ~~him~~ them..Hermey
and Yukon Cornelius had been trying to
find their friend. Well, they arrived
in Christmasville..just as the storm hits.
I send them out after Rudolph.

5-7

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF CORNELIUS AND HERMEY ON SLEIGH BEING PULLED THROUGH STORM BY DOGS.

CORNELIUS
(With gestures.)
Snow, snow...beeeuuuuteeful snow.
Ahhhhloves snow! Makes a body feel
all Christmas-like!

HERMEY
Glad you appreciate it! I'm freezing!
(~~Stops~~. Points.)
Hey...look!

LONG SHOT OF EXTERIOR OF MONSTER'S CAVE.

Dogs pull sleigh up to it.

CORNELIUS (to Dogs.)
~~Wooooah! Wooooah!~~ Wooooah! Wooooah!
Un-mush...will ya'!!!

Hermey and Cornelius hop off sleigh and look inside cave.

TIGHT TWO SHOT. CORNELIUS AND HERMEY

HERMEY
What do we do? We can't let that
monster get ahold of them!

CORNELIUS
I got an I-dee!!
(He whispers into Hermey's ear.)

HERMEY
Not bad...it might work.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT. INTERIOR OF CAVE.

Mrs. Donner and Clarice are holding the unconscious Rudolph.
The Snow Monster, baring his ugly teeth, slobber over them.

CLARICE
Why doesn't he get it over with??
(She starts to sob.)

RUDOLPH
(Awakening.)
Maw...Clarice....

5-8

MEDIUM SHOT OF HERMEY AND CORNELIUS AT CAVE ENTRANCE.

HERMEY

Are you sure we can get him to
come out here?

CORNELIUS

Never knew the Bumble Snow Monster
yet who'd turn down a pork dinner
for deer-meat. Go on now, Dentist.
Do your stuff.CORNELIUS climbs up onto a ledge over the cave entrance. HERMEY
gets down on his hands and knees and makes sounds like a little
pig. The dogs watch..stupidly.

CAMERA PULLS BACK TO FRAME ALL ACTION.

HERMEY

Oink-oink.

CORNELIUS

Put some heart in it! That 'Bumble's
hungry!!

HERMEY

OINK!! OINK!!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. INTERIOR OF CAVE.

The Snow Monster stops dead in his tracks at the sound. He turns
away from the group and looks over his shoulder toward the cave
entrance.

MEDIUM SHOT OF CAVE ENTRANCE.

The shadow of what looks very much like a pig is cast by Hermy
across the snow. A loud "Oinking" continues to accompany it.The Monster leaps into the frame. He slobbers and snaps in glee
as he hurries toward his would-be supper.

E

MEDIUM SHOT. EXTERIOR OF CAVE.

As the monster dashes through the cave entrance, Cornelius..
from his perch...shovels down an avalanche of snow over the
Monster's head. He is having the time of his life.

CORNELIUS

Tasaaaaaarable weaghar we been havin'!!
Har..har..har..The temporarily blinded Monster sputters and gropes around with
his long hands. Cornelius calls to the dogs.

CORNELIUS

Sic him!

5-9

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF DOGS. THEY LOOK UP AT HIM STUPIDLY

MEDIUM SHOT OF CORNELIUS.

CORNELIUS

Sic him..awww come on. That means
go like this.(He demonstrates and bites
into his own arm.

See?

MEDIUM LONG SHOT.

The dogs nod yes and leap up and start biting Cornelius.

CORNELIUS

Not me...him!!!

They all come crashing down into the snow. Dogs yelp.
The monster gropes toward Cornelius and the racket made by
the dogs. Cornelius hands the Monster his pick-axe.

CORNELIUS

Here...make yerself usefull!

With a roar, the Monster raises the pick and slashes at the air
with it. CORNELIUS stands on the St. Bernards back. He reaches
up and tickles the hair on the Snow Monster's head.

CORNELIUS

Right about here.

MEDIUM CU OF THE BLINDED MONSTER.

He brings the pick down on his own head with a smash...and
knocks himself out.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIP ANGLE.

HERMEY rushes up to the Monster. The dogs pile on him.

CORNELIUS

Awww lay off.

(He boots them off Hermy.)

Now do yer stuff.

Hermy advances on the monster with a devilish grin on his face.

MEDIUM SHOT OF INTERIOR OF THE CAVE.

The three deer are still cowering in the corner. They do
not know what has ~~happ~~ happened outside until Cornelius bounds in.

RUDOLPH

It's Yukon Cornelius!!!

(MORE.)

5-10

(SHOT CONT'D.)

CORNELIUS
(Striking a pose.)
Ta...daaa...in person!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. INTERIOR OF CAVE.

Dogs come piling in on top of Yukon Cornelius. Yelping and yapping away.

CORNELIUS
THE FIGHT'S OVER, FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD.
(Burls dogs out of cave.)

MRS. DONNER
Thank heaven!

CLARICE
Let's get out of here!

RUDOLPH
I'll light the way!

The deer rush over to Cornelius. They are all about to leave when they suddenly are greeted by a horrendous, ice-cracking roar. They all pull back.
SOUND: ROAR OF MONSTER.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. FRAME CAVE ENTRANCE.

Blocking the cave entrance is the Snow Monster, who has regained consciousness.

CORNELIUS
Why...blast your hairy, Bumble-hide!!

Suddenly Hermey sticks his head between the legs of the monster and calls to him.

HERMEY
Don't let this big, blow-hard scare you anymore. Just walk right past him.

The surprised Monster looks down. Then he fiercely puckers up his face and starts to let out a yell.

CU OF MONSTER.

As he opens up his mouth to yell, drool and snap...he suddenly grimaces, pulls his eyes together towards his nose to see his once fearful mouth. His teeth have all been pulled out! He is as toothless as a baby. Obviously he can do no more harm. He grabs his mouth with both hands.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. FRAME EVERYONE.

(MORN.)

5-11

(SHOT CONT'D.)

They all look at the monster and burst out laughing.

CORNELIUS
Ahha tell you. You're lookin' at a mighty humble Bumble!

MEDIUM SHOT OF HERMEY

He stands by a pile of molars. He holds a pair of pliers in his hand. He grins proudly.

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH AND MONSTER.

RUDOLPH
Okay, you big bully. Lets see how brave you are without your fangs.
It's about time we had it out!!

He advances on the Monster. But before he can get very far the dogs finally get the message and leap all over the pitiful Abominable Snow Monster. The Monster gives a terrified howl and turns tail and runs off into the blizzard...mutts hanging all over him.

All cheer.

MEDIUM SHOT. CORNELIUS AND HERMEY BY PILE OF TEETH.

Cornelius is fastening one of the teeth onto his watch fob.

CORNELIUS
Why, he ain't nothin' but a big sissy withouten his choppers. Yessir, Hermey... when they build a dentist's hall of Fame... you'll be statue number one!! YIPPEEE!!!

LONG SHOT OF ENTIRE GROUP.

Cornelius ~~gri~~ throws his pick-axe up into the air. It comes down and he picks it up, smells dirt and tastes it.

CORNELIUS
Nothin!! But one of these days...

The group all laugh with release.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM.

SAM
Well sir, they made it back that night... just in time. Cause by midnight that storm ~~settled~~ really settled in!

5-12

DISSOLVE TO

LONG SHOT OF INTERIOR OF GREAT HALL OF SANTA'S CASTLE.

Rudolph, Mrs. Donner, Clarice and Hermey stumble in. Snow has piled up outside...past the windows. The other reindeer and Elves gather about them.

SAM (VO)

Now when everybody hears the story of about how Rudolph and Hermey got rid of the "Abominable"...they start to realize that maybe they were a little hard on the two misfits. Maybe misfits got a place too.

MEDIUM SHOT OF FOREMAN ELF AND HERMEY.

The Foreman shakes hands...then begrudgingly opens his mouth and lets the proud dentist look at his teeth.

HERMEY

Tak..tak. You'd better come to see me. Wendsday at four thirty.
(Laughs with glee.)
Ha..ha..

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH AND MRS. DONNER.

Clarice's father enters frame and comes up to Rudolph.

FATHER

I'm sorry, Rudolph...for the way I acted.

RUDOLPH

(Bitter.)
Doesn't do much good now..does it?

FATHER

I'll always miss Donner, my boy. He was one of my best friends.

He looks away...guilty. Mrs. Donner starts to sob quietly.

SOUND: THE SUDDEN KNOCKING AT THE GREAT DOOR.

CORNELIUS'S VOICE

Open up! 'Taint a fit night out fer man ner beast!

The deer look around. Startled.

MEDIUM SHOT OF GREAT DOORS TO HALL.

(MORE.)

5-13

(SHOT CONT'D.)

Two Elves open the doors. Snow blows in followed by our favorite prospector. He is pulling his sleighfull of dogs, and he has the huge form of Donner slung over his shoulders. He trudges in.

CORNELIUS

Here's the man!
(Drops Donner, who is alive, to the ~~near~~ floor.)
An' here's the beast.
(Donner smiles.)

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

Rudolph and Mrs. Donner rush to Donner.

RUDOLPH

Paw...you're alive!!

DONNER

He..he...found me just in time!

MEDIUM CU OF CORNELIUS.

CORNELIUS

Thar I am....ploooooowin' through the Arctic wastes, when what do I trip over but another dad blamed reindeer.
(Roars.)
I been up t'my dad blamed belt-buckle in reindeer lately.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT.

Everyone laughs with glee.

SLOW DISSOLVE

MEDIUM CU OF SAM. HE SPEAKS DURING DISSOLVE.

SAM

(Warmly.)
Well, everybody feels pretty choice that night...ya' can bet your snowshoes. But they cannot celebrate for long. Because the next day is Christmas Eve.. the biggest day of the year.

DISSOLVE TO

LONG SHOT OF ELVES WORKSHOP. ALL ELVES WORKING...INCLUDING HERMEY.

(MORE.)

5-14

(SHOT CONTINUED.)

SAM (VO)
The Elves all go back to work. Even
Hermey pitched in. ~~(Cause he knew he~~
~~would have his own dentist's office~~
~~when the rush was over.)~~

The Elves start to sing their "cute" song....the music of which
underscores.

CAMERA MOVES AWAY FROM ELVES AND THROUGH A DOOR TO SANTA'S
DINING ROOM.

Santa, in his shirtleeves and suspenders, sits glumly at
his table...picking at his food. His hands are over his ears.
Mrs. Claus stands behind him.

MRS. CLAUS
Eat!

SANTA
How can I eat? That idiot Elf song
is driving me crazy!!

MRS. CLAUS
You're gonna' disappoint the children.
They expect a fat Santa.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

A little Elf in an aviator's suit runs up to him and hands
him a report.

ELF
(Saluting.)
Latest weather report, sir!

Santa looks at it and frowns.

TIGHT TWO SHOT. SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS.

SANTA
Well this is it. The storm wont
subside by tonight. We'll have
to cancel Christmas.

MRS. CLAUS
Papa! Are you sure?!!

SANTA
Everything's grounded!
(Sadly.)
Aw, the poor kids. They've been so good
this year, too. But I couldn't chance it.
Especially without Donner.

5-15

TWO SHOT. REVERSE ANGLE.

MRS. CLAUS
Why don't you pay him a call? Maybe
he feels better by now.

SANTA
I doubt it. But I'll go see.
(Gets up.)
It's our only chance.
(Exits.)

MRS. CLAUS
(Calling after him.)
Papa...put a coat on.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF CORNER OF DONNER'S CAVE.

Donner, heavily bandaged, lies on a pallet of straw. He is still
very weak. Mrs. Donner and Rudolph stand next to him.

RUDOLPH
No Paw, my mind's made up. Soon
as you get better...I'm leaving again.

DONNER
No, son.

RUDOLPH
Let's face it, paw. The others
will never take to a red nose.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. INCLUDE CAVE ENTRANCE.

Santa strides in from out of the snow. He wears an old, duffle
coat. He shakes snow off him.

SANTA
I've never seen such weather!

Donner sees him and tries to get to his feet.

DONNER
Chief...
(He slips down again.)

SANTA
At ease, Donner.

DONNER
Guess I won't be able to make it
this year.

5-16

CU OF SANTA. HE FROWNS.

SANTA

Guess no-one will. Even if you
were better...going out in a storm
like this would be chancy.

MEDIUM SHOT. INCLUDE RUDOLPH AND SANTA.

SANTA

Visability is down to less than ten
feet. No telling what we'd run into.
~~Because~~ I couldn't even find tell
a chimney from a telephone pole.

RUDOLPH

Gosh...this is terrible. Santa, couldn't
I help...I mean...

(As he talks his nose gleams
and catches Santa's eye.)

SANTA

No Rudolph. As I told you once. That
nose disqualifies you from...from...
(Suddenly his face goes blank.
He gets an idea.)
That nose? THAT NOSE!!!

CU OF SANTA.

SANTA

(His face lighting up.)
THAT'S IT!!!! YOUR NOSE!!!

MEDIUM SHOT. SANTA AND RUDOLPH. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

Santa grabs Rudolph and starts dancing around with him.

SANTA

Your nose! Your wonderfull, beautiful
nose! Ho-ho-ho-ho!

RUDOLPH

Huh.

SANTA

Rudolph...you are going to take your
old man's place tonight as lead reindeer.

RUDOLPH

I am!!?
(He smiles...cannot believe his ears.)

SANTA

Yessir! I need that nose of yours.

5-17

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF CAVE. INCLUDE PARENTS.

RUDOLPH

My nose?
(It goes on full blast and
lights up the cave.)

SANTA

(Shielding his eyes.)
From what I see now...that'll cut through
the murkiest storm they can dish up!!
(Rudolph seems bewildered.)
What I'm trying to say is...

TIGHT TWO SHOT. RUDOLPH AND SANTA.

Santa takes Rudolph by the antlers firmly.

SANTA

...Rudolph, with your nose so bright..
won't you guide my sleigh tonight?!

Rudolph looks at him blankly for a second...then the full import
of Santa's request dawns on him. He snaps to attention.

RUDOLPH

It will be an honor, sir.

MEDIUM SHOT. DONNER AND MRS. DONNER

Donner's chest swells proudly.

~~DONNER~~
I knew that nose would be usefull
someday. I knew it all along!!

Mrs. Donner gives him a dirty look.

DISSOLVE TO

LONG SHOT OF THE GREAT HALL OF SANTA'S CASTLE. JUST BEFORE DEPARTURE.

Elves and Reindeer dash all over the place making last minute
preparations/

CAMERA PANS OVER SCENE.

At the center of activities is Santa's sleigh. Next to it
is the huge bag which is being filled with toys. The reindeer
are beginning to line up in front of the sleigh and are getting
into their harnesses.

5-18

SONG IDEA

As all this activity goes on..all the
elves and deer sing "HOLLY-JOLLY CHRISTMAS"
with slight lyric changes. If song is not
used here...Buoyant Band Music should
underscore.

MEDIUM SHOT OF SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS.

Santa, now in his red pants...but still not wearing his coat,
makes last minute checks on his maps and charts. Mrs. Claus
tries to feed him his stew.

SANTA
(Vocalising.)
Ho..ho..ho..ho..

MRS. CLAUS
Eat now..ho-ho later.
(Santa takes a large spoonfull
of stew.)
Let me check! Turn.

SANTA
(Turning his profile.)
Awww Mamma.

MRS. SANTA
Now shake..when you laugh.

His stomach has become quite large with Mama's feeding. He
roars with laughter. His belly shakes.

MRS. CLAUS
By my standards it's certainly
not like a bowlfull of jelly.

SANTA
This year it will have to do.
(Calls.)
My coat!!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

Two elves rush out and bring him his classic red and ermine
coat. They help him on with it. He turns around, slaps his
cap on his head, and, as he holets the bag of toys on his
back, he is suddenly the Santa we all know ~~xxxx~~. And he's
as magical as ever.

5-19

FULL CLOSE SHOT OF SANTA. ESTABLISH.

He laughs and winks at Camera.

SANTA
Ready, Rudolph?

CU OF RUDOLPH

He gulps and nods yes.

LONG SHOT OF ALL REINDEER ATTACHED TO SLEIGH.

Santa rushes over and jumps into the sleigh.

SANTA
Let's be on our way! Okay Rudolph...
full power!!

Rudolph turns his nose on as bright as it will shine. A pink
glow is thrown over everything.

LONG SHOT OF ~~ALL~~ HALL. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

The great hall doors are opened. Wind and snow blows in.

SANTA
(Shouting to deer.)
Up..up...and...awaaaaayyyyyyy...

The reindeer and sleigh fly out the great door into the night.

The others rush out after them, their good spirits more powerful
than the foul weather.

LONG SHOT OF SKY.

Rudolphs glow can be seen gling through the murky darkness...
like Haley's ~~xxxxxx~~ Comet!

MEDIUM SHOT. DONNER, MRS. DONNER AND CLARICE.

CLARICE
He'll be a hero after this!

MRS. DONNER
Nobody will laugh at him.

DONNER
(Tears of pride running
down his cheek.)
That's my boy! My little buck!

5-20

CAMERA MOVES TO MEDIUM SHOT OF HERMEY AND CORNELIUS.

They are cheering wildly. Cornelius turns to dogs.

CORNELIUS

Now..ya' see how it's done!!
Waaaahooooo....He throws his pick-axe into the air. It falls into the ground.
he picks up dirt..looks, smells and tastes it.

CORNELIUS

(His face lighting up with
delight.)Peppermint!! What I've been searchin'
for all my life!! I've struck it rich!!
I've got me a Peppermint mine!!!
Waaaahooooooooooooo!~~Hermey does an enormous take...smacks his forehead and falls over
backward into the snow.~~

ANOTHER LONG SHOT OF RUDOLPH'S GLOW GOING THROUGH THE SKY.

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM, LOOKING UP TO THE SKY. HE SMILES.

SAM

Well folks, you know the rest of the
story. Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer..
he went down in History!

DISSOLVE TO SHOT ABOVE THE STORM...AS IF SEEN FROM A JET PLANE.

The moon shines down on the clouds with a magical effect.
Suddenly, there is a red glow...and Rudolph breaks through...
followed by the other reindeer pulling Santa's sleigh. Camera
stays with them as they zig-zag in and out and around the
fantastic cloud towers.MUSIC: BUILD TO A BEAUTIFUL, FULL CHORAL ARRANGEMENT OF
TITLE SONG..."RUDOLPH THE RED NOSED REINDEER"SUPERIMPOSE CLOSING CREDITSAfter credits Rudolph flies straight at the Camera. He swerves
to the right and the other reindeer pass Camera. Then Santa
passes. He waves and shouts..

SANTA

Merry Christmas! Merry Christmas!

The sleigh zooms away from the Camera...and into the distant
moonlight. As it disappears we...FADE OUTT H E E N D

SEVEN

Rudolph Through The Years

After months and months of hard work by hundreds of talented people, the moment of truth finally arrived. On December 6th, 1964, as the clock struck 5:30 PM on the east coast, NBC Television beamed *Rudolph* out over the airwaves to tens of millions of households across the country. Back in New York, Arthur Rankin and Jules Bass could only wait and hope that their creation would appeal to America's TV viewers. The underwriters at General Electric must likewise have had their fingers crossed. When the program ended at 6:30 PM Eastern Time, the interested parties waited expectantly for the Nielsen ratings to be reported.

When the ratings came in, Rankin/Bass found their show to be not just a success, but a smash hit. It had taken a 55 share for its time slot [a share is the percentage of television sets in use]. In the years to follow, *Rudolph* would routinely win its time slot and consistently pull a 40-50 share. In 1995, the annual Rudolph airing on CBS garnered a 65 share.

With the terrific Nielsen numbers, the producers could breathe a sigh of relief. But there were still all the critics to be heard from in the next day's newspapers. Pleasing the public was one thing, pleasing the reviewers was quite another. But again, there was no need to worry. When the reviews came out the next day, they were overwhelmingly positive. *The New York Times* said, "... a charming and tuneful hour of fantasy on the special General Electric program..." *The Seattle Times* reviewer, C.J. Skreen enthused, "The program was an absolute delight—one of the finest Christmas presentations ever offered in any medium. N.B.C. owes it to the world to present it as an annual affair. Even the commercials were enjoyable." *Variety* called it, "...full of charm, occasional wit, and tunes which caught the spirit of the piece." *The Baltimore Sun* reviewer, Donald Kirkley said, "...a new Yuletide classic, one which belongs in the repertory of seasonal specials." "This was the work of many gifted people."

There were few negative reviews, but even those who disliked the show were mild in their criticisms. *The Herald Tribune* could only complain about, "...characters purloined from W.C. Fields... scenes and situations borrowed from 'The Wizard of Oz'..." *The New York Daily News* reviewer, Ben Gross, was forced to mix praise with his critique, "It had